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OUR 1901 DIARY.

THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1901 is printed, and copies for Australia will be dispatched as soon as the binders do their work. Then will follow copies for other parts of the world, and finally those for home subscribers.

It is a good diary. The special articles in it are sure to be popular, particularly the treatise on the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and the formulæ. The Acts are to have a serious effect on wholesalers and retailers soon, and, keeping this in view, we have given in the treatise the most useful advice and information we can.

Besides these things there is commercial, legal, official, practical, and scientific information in the **DIARY**, which is wanted by druggists every day.

We daresay this note will catch the eye of some whose subscriptions are about to expire; they would do well to send us a 10s. postal order at once. Some also will read the note who borrow the C. & D. They will need the **DIARY**, and they cannot do better than invest 10s. in subscribing for **THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST** for a year. In that way they will get the **DIARY** free by post and the C. & D. every week. The investment pays better than Coats's shares.

Summary.

THE PHARMACY BILL is not yet ready (p. 780).

BELFAST DRUGGISTS have resumed their meetings with energy (p. 767).

AN ASSISTANTS' views of pharmaceutical ethics (rather smartly put) are given on p. 768.

The progress of industrial organic chemistry is sketched by Professor Stanley Kipping (p. 765).

MR. BREMIDGE, the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, is limned as a bird by Mr. Fred Reynolds on p. 770.

AN INTERESTING master and assistant case (respecting an agreement) is reported from the High Court (p. 777).

MR. GLYN-JONES addressed Edinburgh chemists in regard to the P.A.T.A. and C.D.A., and had a fair reception (p. 768).

A PICTURE of the New York drug-warehouse, in which the disastrous explosion took place last week, is given on p. 761.

SUGGESTIONS for the revision of the Patent Laws were given by Mr. Lloyd Wise at Burlington House on Monday (p. 764).

In an interview with Mr. J. S. Hills, one of the gunners of the C.I.V., we have obtained a whiff of the war atmosphere (p. 762).

An interesting discourse on uncommon drugs, which Mr. T. H. Wardleworth gave to Bradford chemists on Tuesday evening, is reported on p. 767.

THE QUININE-WINE CASE heard at Highgate last week suggests some changes upon Pharmacopœial wines, which we indicate in an article on p. 772.

AT THIS SEASON of the year horses' feet require special attention, owing to chapped and cracked heels. The causes and cures are discussed on p. 773.

MR. A. H. ALLEN replies to Professor Attfield's criticism of his Sheffield speech, regarding the Pharmacopœia as a standard, in a letter printed on p. 784.

"**XRAYSER**" thinks that if Mr. H. H. Allen and Dr. Attfield were closeted for an hour they would settle what things should not be required to be of B.P. standard (p. 771).

THE CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION had a new style of entertainment last week, which, as will be seen from the report on p. 766, was interesting and profitable.

A LARGE NUMBER OF CHEMISTS have been elected councillors at the various boroughs in Great Britain. We give the names on p. 783, and indicate a few perspective mayors.

AT THE MEETING of the Society of Public Analysts on Wednesday evening, Mr. Moor read a paper on "Analytical Standards." Some things were said about the B.P. (p. 785).

DR. E. R. SQUIBB, of Brooklyn, whose researches in pharmaceutical chemistry are well known, died at the end of last month. We print an appreciation of his work by Dr. F. B. Power on p. 775.

THOSE WHO THINK the Pharmaceutical Council should have the power to erase from the register the names of persons guilty of infamous conduct, will find something to their advantage on p. 771.

OPIMUM AND MORPHINE are the features of the market this week, the former being about 1s. per lb. dearer. Menthol is also higher, and so is Japanese peppermint oil. Quinine is flat and lower, and ipecac. 1s. cheaper. Business generally is quiet (p. 786).

AT THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL-MEETING on Wednesday, Mr. Glyn-Jones was able to persuade his colleagues to institute an inquiry regarding the qualifications of persons engaged as dispensers in the army, public institutions, and elsewhere (p. 781).

MESSRS. MURTON HOLMES, SPRATT TAYLOR, AND EDMUND WHITE are the new pharmaceutical examiners for England and Wales, and Professor Bower, of Glasgow, and Mr. David Gilmour, Dunfermline, have been appointed to the vacancies on the Scotch Board (p. 780).

WE REPORT several interesting sweet-spirit-of-nitre cases under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. In one case, at Melton Mowbray, the retailer showed that the spirit had deteriorated between the purchase and analysis. Similar defences were put forward elsewhere, with like results (p. 777).

THE WINTER SESSION is exceptionally full this week. We report meetings of four sections of the Society of Chemical Industry, a meeting of the Chemical Society, and meetings of the local chemists' associations at Barnsley, Belfast, Bradford, Glasgow, and Edinburgh; also of the C.A.A., London (p. 764).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The Davy Medal of the Royal Society is this year awarded to Professor Ernst Guglielmo Koerner for his brilliant investigations on the position theory of the aromatic compounds.

Sir Wm. Huggins, K.C.B., the astronomer, has been nominated for the presidency of the Royal Society. He is an old "citizen," and has worked in his own observatory at Tulse Hill since 1856.

Mr. Joseph Beecham, pill-manufacturer, the Mayor of St. Helens, has marked the close of his year of office by presenting a handsome silver championship cup to the borough police force for competition in the game of bowls.

Mr. Bond, manager to Mr. Charles Cowles, chemist and surgeon-dentist, of West Ham Lane, whose shop was visited by a bullock, as mentioned last week, suggests that the bullock were attracted by the name Cowles over the door.

On October 9 the pharmacy of Messrs Isons (Limited), New Street, Wellington (Salop), was broken into, and cash amounting to 22*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* stolen from the office. An employé of the firm named Jonah Weaving is now charged with the theft.

A plumber in the employment of the Netham Chemical-works (United Alkali Company), while engaged in repairing an acid-chamber last week fell off a defective plank and broke his back and leg. He died in the Bristol General Hospital.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week the Spectacle-makers' Company held their sixth examination in connection with the certification of opticians at the Hall of the Carpenters' Company. Nearly fifty candidates presented themselves.

If Secretaries of Pharmaceutical Associations will write to Mr. G. S. V. Wills, Westminster College, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E., he will present a copy of the present and future editions of all his books for the use of members of the Associations.

The Visiting Committee of the Watford Board of Guardians have recommended that a dispensary should be fitted up in the Infirmary, and that all drugs for the use of the medical officer should be supplied by the Guardians together with surgical appliances.

On November 1 Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co.'s workmen at Middlewich began the eight-hours' day with the same rate of payment hitherto received. They are thus placed on similar terms to those engaged in other departments and with whom the eight-hours' day has worked with great success.

At the opening meeting of the Devon and Exeter Gardeners' Association, held at the Exeter Guildhall last week, Mr. Allan H. Ware, Ph.C., teacher at the Exeter Pharmacy School, gave an interesting and instructive lecture on "Studies in Plant Life," for which he was heartily thanked.

When the C.I.V. were passing through London last week an "enterprising pill-and-powder merchant" (so a contributor of *Reynolds's* has it) in Ludgate Hill put out a placard with the legend—"C.I.V. Pick-me-ups," and, as his shop was crowded, he was evidently reaping the reward of his enterprise.

On Friday evening, November 2, at the Barnfield Hall, Exeter, Mr. Eric Lemmon, chemist, presided at a lecture given under the auspices of the Exeter Literary Society by Mr. C. G. Moor, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S., the Exeter city analyst, on "Food and its Adulterations." In the course of it Mr. Moor spoke on his proposals for drug standards.

At a meeting of the Taunton Town Council last week it was decided to ask the outgoing Mayor, Councillor W. A. Wrenn, chemist, to accept office for another year, and he

expressed his willingness to do so. It was at first proposed that 200*l.* should be voted to the Mayor to defray his expenses during the coming year, but Mr. Wrenn declined to entertain the proposal.

Mr. Fordham, the North London Police Magistrate, evidently shares in the idea that chemists make fabulous profits. Last Saturday two women were before him charged with stealing a bottle of scent, valued at 1*l.*, from the shop of Mr. Arthur Pereira, chemist, 140 Hornsey Road. And when the value of the goods came to be stated, Mr. Fordham asked: What is the actual value of that bottle? About 5*s.*, I suppose? Mr. Pereira: Oh, dear, no; it is worth 1*l.* One woman was discharged, and the other remanded.

The members of the Hull branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association gave a complimentary banquet on Friday evening, November 2, at the Imperial Hotel, Hull, to Mr. W. Hawksworth, the proprietor of Gunnee's Powders, in honour of his election to the chairmanship of the head Association. Mr. Hawksworth had held the office of Secretary to the Hull branch for the past twelve years. A presentation was made to Mr. Hawksworth of a silver coffee service and other plate, and Mrs. Hawksworth received a gold brooch in miniature of the medallion of the chairman's chain of office.

A Jubilee.

On Saturday, November 3, Mr. John Woolgar, who has completed fifty years of service in the warehouse* of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., was presented with an illuminated address and a silver-mounted walking-stick. The address was worded as follows:—

In commemoration of fifty years' honourable service in the firm of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., 16 Coleman Street, City. We, your friends and colleagues, whose names are appended, wish to testify to the respect and esteem in which you are held by all, and to assure you of our hope that you may enjoy many years of well-earned rest and leisure. The firm having already testified their appreciation of your services, we beg your acceptance of the small present accompanying this testimonial as an earnest of our most sincere congratulations.

(Here followed the names of the subscribers).

The presentation was acknowledged in feeling terms by Mr. Woolgar, and he afterwards received the congratulations of many friends and former colleagues.

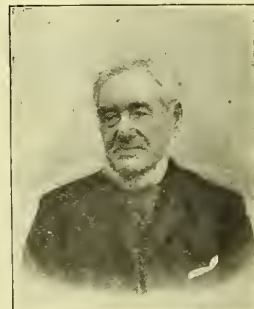
Royal Institution.

The annual course of Christmas lectures, specially adapted to young people, will be delivered by Sir Robert S. Ball, F.R.S., on "Great Chapters in the Book of Nature." The lectures begin on Thursday, December 27, at 3 P.M. December 29, 1900, and January 1, 3, 5, and 8, 1901 are the other dates.

Mr. W. H. Maw, Mrs. R. Middleton, and Dr. W. H. Perkin, F.R.S., were elected members on Monday. Dr. Frank McClean, F.R.S., has given a donation of 50*l.* to the Fund for the Promotion of Experimental Research at Low Temperatures, and Dr. Rudolph Messel has presented a bronze bust of Sir Humphry Davy.

Self-doctoring.

The Manchester City Coroner had another tilt at self-medication last week. At an inquest regarding the death of a man who had suffered from asthma and did not believe in doctors, but had taken cough-mixture, which he had obtained from Mr. Beales, chemist, at the corner of Whitley Street, Oldham Road, the daughter of the deceased said Mr. Beales sold a great deal of the cough-mixture, and it was reported to be a valuable remedy. Whereupon the Coroner said these people who would not have doctors because they did not believe in them, believed in medicine and doctored themselves, which was the very worst doctor they could have. These people did not attempt the repair of their own watches and



MR. JOHN WOOLGAR.

pianofortes, but took them to trained mechanics, and yet when it came to a question of the repair of their own bodies they would not call in experts.

The Poison Record.

The scheduled poisons have it all their own way in the poisoning cases which have been reported to us since our last issue. Out of eleven cases, one only was with an unscheduled article—spirit of salt. Two of the remaining ten cases were accidental (laudanum and oxalic acid). Two suicides were with carbolic acid, two with oxalic acid, and one each with arsenic, corrosive sublimate, laudanum, and strychnine. Three of these were of pregnant unmarried women, and another a woman recently confined, who swallowed a quantity of solution of corrosive sublimate in Lewisham Infirmary. The jury in this case requested the Coroner to write to the Lewisham Union Guardians expressing their opinion that greater precautions should be taken against allowing poisonous disinfectants to be left in the lavatory. Three deaths during chloroform anesthesia have also occurred this week, two of them at Liverpool.

Treatment for Cancer.

Serious allegations were made at an inquest held at Royston on October 29, respecting the death of a married woman named Dransfield. She suffered from cancer on the right breast, and, against the wishes of her husband, consulted an unqualified practitioner named Rawlings, at Stockport. She declared that she had faith that she would be cured by his treatment, which consisted of the application of two dark-coloured lotions, one at morning and the other at night, to the cancer. Dr. E. W. Blackburn, who made a *post-mortem*, said that death was due to exhaustion consequent upon a large open wound on the breast, which appeared to have been caused by the application of some caustic irritant. Death, he said, had been accelerated by this treatment. The Coroner decided to have the lotions analysed, and he consequently adjourned the inquiry.

For the Cup.

The Square footers met Muter's on their own ground last Saturday, and a somewhat one-sided game resulted in a victory for the Square by 4 goals to *nil*. It was the first match in the Inter-pharmacy League for both clubs this season.

Store-prices.

The Civil Service Supply Association's Drug Department announces the following prices advanced:—Chest and lung protectors (Canadian), from 2s. 9d., 3s. 6d., 4s. 2d., to 3s. 2d., 3s. 11d., 4s. 9d.; gloves (Turkish), from 6d. to 6½d. per pair; gloves (flesh), from 6d. to 6½d. per pair.

Leeds Notes.

A leading chemist in the city bitterly complains of the lack of combination among chemists, both in the central and outlying parts of Leeds. The association, ostensibly formed for the promotion of their interests is, he says, very inadequately supported. Indeed, there are not a few chemists who either greatly doubt its existence, or are totally unaware that it exists.

The absence of *esprit de corps*, says our complainant, is more or less noticeable all over. The half-holiday question, he points out, is one on which there is no uniformity of opinion or practice in Leeds. Some favour it and some do not, and those who do declare they cannot close because of those who do not. The consequence is that in the centre of the city individual half-holidays are taken, and in the suburbs an irregular system of closing is observed. Probably the state of affairs is complicated by the patent-medicine selling grocers, but, be that as it may, the lack of uniformity in this direction does not conduce to friendliness of feeling in the craft.

The Leeds Board of Guardians had before them, on Wednesday night, the appointment of an outdoor dispenser and an assistant medical officer for the Union. For the former post there were ninety-one applicants, of whom twenty-six were chemists, chemists and druggists, and chemists' assistants. They hailed from London, Retford, Blackburn, Sunderland, Southport, Durham, Liverpool, Leeds, Bingley, Derby,

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Spalding, Llandudno, Stockport, Bradford, Croydon, and Huddersfield, among other places. The salary attached to the position is 150l. a year, with no extras, and the applicants had to be licentiates of the Apothecaries' Company of London, or to be duly registered under the Pharmacy Act, 1863. The post eventually fell to Mr. Jas. Duncan, 28 years of age, assistant dispenser, of Birmingham. For the assistant medical officership there were three applicants, the salary being 130l., rising by instalments of 10l. per annum to 150l. a year, with board, washing, apartments, and attendance. Mr. J. R. McFerran, L.R.C.P. & S.E., Hull, was appointed.

Sticks up for the Vaccine.

Arising out of the complaint made at a recent meeting of the East Preston Board of Guardians respecting the quality of the lymph supplied to the public vaccinators by the Local Government Board (*C. & D.*, page 720), the Vaccination Officer attended the Police Court at Worthing on October 31 and said that the statement was likely to have a very prejudicial effect on the successful carrying out of the law. He denied that the Government vaccine was likely to be injurious to the health of children, and explained that some of the tubes had contained vaccine that was inert, and rather than pay a second visit to houses at a distance the medical officers had used their own lymph.

"Crimson Cross" Powders.

At an inquest held at Derby on November 3 regarding the death of Robert Booth (46) from typhoid fever, the widow stated that when deceased became ill he took a "Crimson Cross" powder, which was advertised in a local newspaper as follows:—

"Crimson Cross" fever and influenza remedies, 7½d. a packet; cure scarlet fever in three days, influenza in thirty-six hours render the patient non-infectious.

A gentleman, stated to be the inventor of the "Crimson Cross" powders, declared that he had cured hundreds of cases like that of deceased, where the patients had obeyed his orders. Dr. W. Copestake said it was impossible to cure scarlet fever in three days and influenza in thirty-six hours. The Coroner thought the advertisement which had been read was very wrong. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and added that they were of opinion that the advertisement was very misleading to the public, and ought to be put down.

[Bits from Birmingham.

Young women are now so eager to become dispensers for doctors and in public dispensaries, that they rush at it too hard. At Blackfriars last month, of about a dozen who presented themselves from the provinces for the A.A.'s certificate, only one is stated to have broken down the barrier and got the parchment.

Messrs. Boots have in their right-hand window striking pictures on current topics (parodied), which have been such an attraction as to cause a block on the causeway, especially at midday. They are not quite pharmaceutical, but, unlike education *à la* Mr. Dewhurst, it does pay to get crowds to stop and inspect your wares and windows, or why do they have such large window-spaces?

The senior partner of a well-known firm, Messrs. Bellamy & Wakefield, lives at Harborne and devotes his spare time to visiting, prescribing, and healing the sick poor. He does not charge for medicine, and is very successful. In his dispensary he has a box in which grateful patients put their thank-offerings, which at the end of a suitable time are given to the hospitals. It is said that as much as from 30l. to 50l. has been so distributed in a year.

For dignified window-dressing it is generally conceded that Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay, and Mr. Chase, Edgbaston, take the palm. In those of the former are to be seen dainty Red Cross surgical-cases, fitted up with all requisites and in sizes to suit all pockets and households. In Mr. Chase's window are large and handsome show-jars containing exceedingly fine specimens of drugs, which are changed now and then—that is the point of the exhibit.

Chemists and druggists are specially warned to closely examine 5s. pieces which are being tendered in this city. A

local correspondent calls attention to this, and states they are readily distinguished from the genuine article by the weight—that of a crown-piece is 1 oz., and that of the objectionable one $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. He also says that half-a-crown weighs $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; and he further might have said that one penny is $\frac{1}{4}$ of an oz., and that the diameter of a halfpenny is one inch exactly. The sovereign should never weigh less than 120 gr., nor the half-sovereign less than 60 gr.

In conversation with a comb-maker of this town it was gleaned that many beautiful combs, which are now mostly made by machinery, are made from vegetable ivory. The nut is about the size of a walnut, and exceedingly hard, and to get it into a condition to form an elongated flat piece, it is steamed for some days, then rolled to the desired length, thickness, and width, hardened, and finally cut and ornamented if desired. Specimens of combs shown were beautiful examples of art, but as they are hand-made the price was not in harmony with modern commercial profits.

Are the junior pharmacists and, indeed, the principals themselves, aware of the plums to be obtained at the Municipal Technical School? An onlooker would think not, for at the distribution of prizes by Sir Owen Smith last Tuesday, amongst them were the Priestley Science Scholarship, 50% per annum tenable for two years; this was secured by a lady; one of 60% per annum, and several other less valuable. No recipient was engaged in pharmacy. This is not as it used to be, for Mr. J. E. Perry had such a success some years ago with a pupil named Holdbeach, and Dr. Palmer Wynne was once a pupil at Messrs. Southalls. The late Mr. A. E. Robinson, chemist to P. Harris & Co., was a great prize-taker, and, had he been spared, would have been found high up the ladder of chemical and pharmaceutical fame.

Analyst's Report.

The Oxford County Analyst (Mr. W. W. Fisher) reports the analysis of fifty-four samples purchased by the county inspectors during the past quarter. The samples of seidlitz-powders were correct as regards the ingredients, but, while most of the samples were fairly correct in weight, in certain cases the contents of the papers had been roughly measured, and some were deficient and others were in excess of the prescribed quantities.

Irish News.

Business Change.

Mr. C. B. Vance, proprietor of the Burnaby Pharmacy, Greystones, has removed his medical hall to more commodious premises in the same street.

A Plaster in Doubt.

A woman in Belfast has died after putting a plaster composed of herbs to an eruption on her nose. The inquest has been adjourned for an analysis to be made.

Sterilised Milk.

Dr. H. O'Neill, Belfast, has recently, through the generosity of a friend, placed at the disposal of the City Council the sum of 200% as an experiment to sterilise milk. The doctor is quite sanguine of the success of the trial. He visited the Continent in order to glean information.

The Limerick Dispenser.

A sworn inquiry is proceeding at the Limerick Union into the necessity of filling the post of compounder with a pharmacist or a resident doctor, who would also act as compounder of medicines. It will be remembered that the Guardians appointed a chemist, but the Local Government Board refuse to sanction the appointment.

A New Pharmacopœia.

Pharmacists of Belfast are notified that the new edition of the Pharmacopœia of the Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, will come into use on and after Monday, November 12. The medicines prescribed for the patients attending the hospital will be taken from this edition only.

The B.P.C.

Mr. W. F. Wells, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, sent out a circular stating that the British Pharmaceutical Conference had accepted the invitation, presented on behalf of the pharmaceutical chemists and registered druggists of Dublin and the South of Ireland, to hold its annual Conference next year in Dublin, and calling a meeting at 67 Lower Mount Street to elect officers, form a reception committee, and open a guarantee fund to defray expenses. The night, unfortunately, turned out to be a very wet one, and so few chemists attended that very little business was done. The appointment of Secretary was not made. It is satisfactory to note that subscriptions to the guarantee fund are coming in very well. The adjourned meeting is to be held at an early date.

Scotch News.

Fires.

A fire occurred in Kinning Park, Glasgow, on Monday, in the works of Messrs. Cross & Clyde, paint and varnish manufacturers, by which damage to the amount of 3,000% was done.

Last Saturday morning (November 1) the premises of Messrs. William Davidson & Son, wholesale druggists, Victoria Court, Castle Street, Aberdeen, were slightly damaged by fire, which broke out in the cellar.

Business Changes.

Mr. Robert Marshall, chemist and druggist, Tayport, has disposed of his business to Mr. James Bissit, chemist, of Burntisland and Aberdour.

Mr. A. A. White, chemist and druggist, Auchtermuchty, has disposed of his business to Mr. W. W. Matthewson, chemist and druggist.

Society of Chemical Industry.

The first meeting of the Scottish Section was held in the Edinburgh University on November 6, Dr. Frew presiding. Mr. D. R. Steuart read a paper by Mr. Basil Steuart on the "Composition of Shale Naphtha," and one of his own on "Petroleum and Paraffin Oil"; while Dr. Hugh Marshall communicated papers on "Arrangements for Electrolytic Analysis," and "The Volumetric Determination of Thallium."

Honouring a Dundonian.

In the Royal Hotel, Dundee, on November 3, Mr. Frank W. Young, F.R.S.E., F.C.S. (a former chemist's assistant), was entertained at dinner and presented with a handsome testimonial on the occasion of his leaving the city to become her Majesty's Inspector of Schools for the Western District of Scotland. Sir John Leng, M.P., presided, and amongst those present were Mr. Charles Kerr (with whom Mr. Young was an assistant), Professor James Walker, F.R.S., and other old pupils. The present was a service of plate and a deposit receipt for 100%.

Greenock Glare and Glitter.

A correspondent of the *Greenock Telegraph*, writing on Sunday-trading, refers to the bright and attractive display of many of the chemists' shops in the principal streets. "The time was when half, or at most the whole door, was open to admit customers for medicine or to have prescriptions dispensed, but now, not only the door is thrown open, but shutters are off, blinds drawn up, and gas fully lighted, as if to attract all who pass."

A Narrow Escape.

The premises of Messrs. James Hardie & Son, pharmaceutical chemists, 68 High Street, Dundee, the leading dispensing business in the city, narrowly escaped destruction by fire about midday on Thursday of last week. A hat-shop adjoining was completely gutted, and at one time it looked as if, through the dilatoriness of the fire-brigade, the pharmacy would be enveloped. The actual loss is confined to slight damage by smoke and water, and is covered by insurance.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

PERSONAL ITEMS.—Mr. F. W. Fletcher (of Fletcher, Fletcher & Co.) spent some days in Paris last week, and made good use of his time in visiting the Exhibition.—Mr. F. C. J. Bird (of C. R. Harker, Stagg & Morgan) was another pharmaceutical visitor.—Dr. Barnard, one of the leading English physicians practising at Monte Carlo, has also been spending a few days here latterly, on his way down South.

A "LIFE OF PASTEUR," by his son-in-law, M. Vallery Radot, has just been published by Hachette & Co. The book is well written and full of interest from first to last. A French critic refers to it as a magnificent monument erected to the intelligence, character, and heart of the greatest, the most honest, and most sympathising *savant* of our time. In this new tribute to the memory of Pasteur the author gives his biography side by side with the history of his scientific work. Amongst other things of interest are the origin of Pasteur's family, the surroundings in which he grew up, and his early studies. Following this come his scientific discoveries, a description of the ideas and sentiments that inspired him, as well as selections from his letters and own works. The description of the inoculation of the first patient—a boy named Joseph Meister—with the anti-rabies vaccine is well described, and altogether the book is one that will be read with interest by the admirers of the great *savant* everywhere.

"CARE AND PENAL RESPONSIBILITY IN PHARMACY" is the title of a book of the legal side of pharmacy by M. G. Lavy, who, besides being a barrister and a doctor of law, is the son of a pharmacist. It is a fact that a knowledge of pharmacy is not in itself hereditary, but the paternal acquaintance of the profession has in this instance no doubt been of great assistance to the author in preparing a work of considerable value. The various legal questions relating to pharmacy are treated by him with a sure hand. Amongst them the degree of responsibility likely to be incurred personally by a pharmacist in case of an infraction of the law by an assistant is also treated. In referring to the question of responsibility and the general principles governing it, the author quotes from a French philosopher, who says:—"Human weakness has also certain rights which must be taken into consideration at the risk of committing an injustice on the pretext of repairing another. A fault as such cannot be justified or become a legitimate act, but it may sometimes be at least partially excused."

FROM THE RIVIERA.—A correspondent writes me that the autumn awakening after the summer quietness is commencing rather earlier than usual. The season last year was very dull and unfavourable owing to the absence of English visitors, and pharmacists felt the pinch as much as anyone. The cry of "Kruger's coming" caused something approaching to consternation amongst the tradespeople at Nice recently, but his visit seems unlikely, and even if it takes place he will probably be most welcome when he has gone. Not that the Nipois are wanting in courtesy, but they look upon our Queen as something of a *mascotte*, while they could hardly extend that compliment to Oom Paul for his first visit. A mention of Nice would not be complete without including a reference to Mr. A. Nicholls, the well-known English pharmacist there, "Her Majesty's chemist" as he is styled. Mr. Nicholls has recently issued a new 100-page catalogue in English for the benefit of the numerous English and American visitors to Nice. It is compiled with evident care and printed, black on white, in excellent style. One of his own specialities, Eau de Cologne de Cimiez, is a favourite article amongst visitors.

THE EVANS' SUCCESSION.—It is announced that under the arrangement come to by the heirs of the late Dr. Thomas W. Evans, the well-known dentist, the city of Philadelphia, U.S.A., will shortly receive \$300,000 (60,000*l.*) with which to found a Dental Institute in memory of the doctor. The executors of the will have compounded with the heirs for payment to the latter of a total sum of \$1,075,000 (215,000*l.*) in settlement of all claims. All the house property that

belonged to the deceased dentist, both in France and the United States, is to be sold for the purpose of distributing the proceeds. Under this arrangement the well-known and historical mansion in the Avenue du Bois de Boulogne, Paris, will come under the hammer. It was here that Dr. Evans received the Empress Eugenie previous to assisting her to escape from Paris in 1871. During the present year the mansion has been rented by the French Government and used for the purpose of receiving foreign Sovereigns during their visits to Paris while the Exhibition is open. It was outside this house that the attempt was made on the life of the Shah of Persia a few months ago. It is very probable that this charming residence will very shortly be pulled down and give place to a more remunerative investment in the form of a large apartment-house to be set off in flats—*sic transit gloria mundi*.

AN INTERNATIONAL AMENITY.—Last Sunday morning I profited by a few hours' leisure to take a stroll through the exhibition with a fellow-pharmacist, to take a final stock of some of the very diversified and scattered exhibits connected with pharmacy. Towards midday we came to the Esplanade des Invalides, and found ourselves near the pavilion of a well-known London dairy company. The kiosk hard by—where Dublin stout is retailed—being closed for the Sabbath, we betook ourselves to the dairy for a glass of milk. Near by we noticed an old military pensioner with a wooden leg, and wearing the uniform of the Invalides Hospital (the Paris equivalent of Chelsea Hospital) comfortably seated on a chair, and taking his fill of hot cocoa and sponge cake. Soon he rose to go, and beamingly happy he took the hand of a buxom young woman who had waited on him, and bending low kissed her hand respectfully, and with a grace that was almost courtierlike, then he hobbled away with the aid of a stick, still beaming and evidently supremely happy. Can one picture such a little scene, including the hand-kissing, in London in an A.B.C. tea-shop? Yet it did not seem out of place here by any means. "That was very graceful, and quite an old-fashioned style of bidding adieu," said my friend to the girl. "Well, you know," she replied, "the old man has been coming here for some time for his lunch, and he knows me." "I quite understand that, but how can he stand the racket every day of such comparatively luxurious fare?" "As to that, we do not charge him anything; they tell me the old pensioners are not so well off as ours in England, and so we do not let him pay, and I suppose he is a bit grateful." "And how long has this been going on?" "Why, for some months; what he has is not missed. He orders what he likes, but it's generally cocoa and sponge cakes." "Has he given his find away to any pals?" "No, I suppose not, because we have only had him." It was quite a little international amenity, this incident of the British dairymaid serving a free lunch daily to a wooden-legged pensioned French soldier, and my friend suggested we should go after the old man and get his impressions on the subject. We caught him up after some little difficulty on account of the crowd, and, nothing loth to talk, he spoke in warm terms of British hospitality, and with evident regret at the near approach of the close of the Exhibition. "Would he tell something of his history?" "Yes, with pleasure, but it was not very much." His father had been a druggist in a small way of business in the South of France, and he (the son) had enlisted. Then came the Crimean War, Sebastopol, and a wooden leg for him, and in his old age a refuge at the Invalides. He had good recollection of the English as allies during the Crimean, and the British dairymaids of to-day are but little less than angels. No, he did not think Napoleon had been so very badly treated at St. Helena as a certain noble author suggested; it was not possible. That was the whole story, and, shaking hands with us, he started off once more.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FRENCH M.P.'s.—The Buvette at the Chamber of Deputies has been transformed into quite a sumptuous room. Deputies can enjoy nips of cognac, rum, or Chartreuse. Chincona is so compounded as to be used as a liqueur. . . . A pharmaceutical chemist supplies restoratives and medical stimulants which can be had without a doctor's prescription. A favourite pick-me-up when there is a long sitting is a "lait-de-poule"—a beaten-up egg and a glass of brandy in hot milk. Poor Deputies make a serious use of the Buvette, and often take a lait-de-poule.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

South African News.

(From our Cape Town Correspondent.)

ADULTERATION AT THE CAPE.—The *Cape Times* comments editorially on the report of the Under Secretary for Cape Colony, covering the administration of the the Food, Drugs, and Seeds Act, for 1899. For the most part the report is merely a reproduction of the senior analyst's report, a review of which we published recently. Our contemporary refers to the adulteration of foodstuffs as "that last outrage on the poor," and gets along very well indeed till it comes to the drugs. Gregory's powder is the only one dealt with, the remarks being as follows: "Juveniles with a horror of Gregory's powder may be interested to hear that four of six samples of that useful but disagreeable compound were mixed with other things—perhaps to render it a little more agreeable to the immature palate."

SOAP-MANUFACTURE IN SOUTH AFRICA.—There has been laid on the table of the Legislative Council of the Cape of Good Hope Parliament a letter from Mr. Henry A. Woolf, respecting the disabilities which manufacturers of soap suffer. The present duty on household soaps in the colony is 4s. 2d. per 100 lbs., and in the Transvaal, 5s. In the latter instance, however, the manufacturer is much better able to compete with European production, as he is only charged an *ad valorem* duty on the raw material. Again, on oils, a duty of 3d. per gall. is levied, and on tallow $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per pound is charged. The duty works out at so high a rate as to completely nullify the benefit which the manufacturer would otherwise derive from the existing duty on imported household soaps. The result of this is that, for the last three years, the importation of oils for soap-making has been virtually stationary, no headway being made. On the other hand the importation of finished soaps has very largely increased. Mr. Woolf also points out that glycerin forms an important by-product of soap-manufacture, but that under existing conditions dynamite-glycerin has, at a cost of 40% per ton, to be entirely imported from Europe.

Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.

A special meeting of this Society was held in the Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Cape Town, on October 11, the President (Mr. F. W. C. Thomas), in the chair. The attendance was small. Among those present were Messrs. Geo. Darroll, W. Jeffrys, J. James, and W. Fick. Mr. Geo. T. Branch (formerly of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, London), and Mr. Lang (resident representative of Southall Bros. & Barclay, Limited), were visitors.

The President opened the business of the evening by reading a letter received from Mr. Magness Elgar resigning the secretaryship. He expressed his personal regret, as the Society lost a most capable man in Mr. Elgar, he having at all times, during his short connection with the Society, discharged the duties in a highly satisfactory manner. Mr. W. Fick proposed and it was agreed that an appreciation of Mr. Elgar's services be recorded in the minutes.

Mr. Nisbet was then elected as secretary. Mr. Geo. Darroll was elected Vice-President, in place of Mr. James Jones resigned.

A paper on "Coal, its Formation and Derivatives," by Mr. Fick, was then read and proved interesting, if only as a reminder to Cape chemists that they pay anything from 65s. to 90s. per ton of 2,000 lbs. for that commodity, against 30s. per English ton at home. The vegetation of the period in which coal was formed, he pointed out, must have been most prolific, compared with which the present-day earth is as waste land. After referring at some length to the mines in Great Britain, the annual production of coal, the method of mining it, and its existence all over the world, Mr. Fick dealt with the derivatives of coal-tar, including the fine chemicals and anilines handled in course of trade. Picric acid he wished specially to draw their attention to, as it enters into the manufacture of lyddite. Statistics were given showing the enormous strides made by German manufacturers of coal-tar products, especially in anilines. Satirically he cautioned anyone who fancied his gas-meter was leaking not to look for the escape with a lighted candle, a sally which reminded some of the errand-boy who struck a match to see if the benzine-drum was full.

East Indian News.

Bombay, October 20.

PERSONAL.—Mr. T. Bliss, of Lahore and Simla, and Mr. C. B. Robinson, of Bombay, returned to India this week, well pleased with the holiday they had.

THERE ARE VERY LARGE ORDERS going the rounds for benzoline, one firm alone wanting 120 gals. There are no holders in the city at the moment.

THE NEW BANGALORE HOSPITAL will, it is estimated, cost a lakh of rupees when completed. It is to be named after Lady Curzon, in commemoration of the Viceregal visit to Bangalore.

THE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL-STORES DEPARTMENT are customers locally for 120 lbs. gallic acid. An enterprising individual (apparently in the know) has, I learn, bought all stocks everywhere, both European and native, evidently meaning to make a "corner" of it.

BAZAAR REPORT.—A fairly brisk week after five weeks of comparative quiet. Quinine is still on the move upwards, and if stock is much longer delayed record prices are anticipated. Radix ginger is very scarce in market, and prices have gone up 25 per cent. in the last month.

A BIG PILL-ORDER.—Messrs. Treacher & Co. (Limited), Bombay, have secured what is likely to prove a record pill-order for India for a very long time. They are, from October 17, supplying a large native State with 30,000 pills daily for a period of two months. Each day close upon 10 oz. of quinine is used for these pills alone.

BOMBAY'S NEW HEALTH OFFICER.—All sections of the community are looking forward to the arrival of the new municipal health officer, whose appointment has just been confirmed. He is Dr. Joseph Priestley, B.A. Lond., M.D., C.M. (Edin.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.P.H. Cambridge, till recently medical officer of health to the parish of Lambeth and director of the Lambeth bacteriological laboratory.

MESSRS. KEMP & CO. (LIMITED), Bombay, have this week brought the authors of several thefts of patents to justice, in the persons of a compounder in their employ and a Parsee. The latter, for receiving the property, was sentenced to one day's imprisonment and a fine of 250r. In view of the compounder's long service with Messrs. Kemp the Magistrate gave him four months' imprisonment.

BEYNON'S BUSINESS.—In regard to the paragraph on the sale of this business, which was printed in this section on September 15, Mr. J. Stanley Smith informs us that although the partners of Bertie-Smith & Co. before its recent conversion were financially interested in Beynon & Co., the two businesses were quite distinct. The business was sold—for more than 30,000r.—to Mr. Hormusji Ruttonji Omrigur, a very well-known Parsee, who has been interested at one time or other in many of the important industrial concerns in Bombay allied to pharmacy, and is the well-known contractor of the Forbes Ice Factory.

INDIGENOUS DRUGS OF BENGAL.—The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal, has recently issued a circular directing the medical officers in charge of hospitals and dispensaries under him to resort more largely to the use of indigenous drugs in the treatment of their patients. A retired surgeon commenting favourably on the circular in a recent issue of the *Indian Agriculturist*, points out, however, that a conscientious medical man would shrink from making a too free use of the drugs, owing to the want of precise knowledge of their physiological action. In the absence of such a knowledge a practitioner may, by using these drugs, be unconsciously doing mischief to his patient. The Inspector-General, he says, would confer a real blessing on the country and advance the cause of medical science in India very materially if he would persuade the Government to sanction the employment of an expert from Europe to make a careful scientific investigation into the action of various Indian drugs on the different organs of the human body. This, it is hoped, would give a real impetus to the extensive use of these drugs and lay the foundation of a real Indian pharmacopœia.

Colonial and Foreign News.

A PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION is to be held in Buffalo, N.Y., from May 1 to November 1, 1901. It is intended particularly to aid in the promotion of trade and in the establishment of more friendly relations among the States and countries of the Western Hemisphere.

GERMAN RUBBER ASSOCIATION.—The German Rubber Goods Manufacturers' Association held its annual meeting at Frankfort recently. Forty factories are represented in the association, of which sixteen employ under 100 hands, sixteen employ between 100 and 500, and eight employ over 500. All important German concerns are connected with the institution, which wields a powerful influence. The association has been consulted by the Government about the new tariffs to be arranged this year.

AMERICAN PATENT MEDICINES IN SWITZERLAND.—Some time ago a large American concern manufacturing a patent medicine sent its agents into Switzerland in the hope of finding a market there. It discovered that the Swiss protection tariff on proprietary medicines and nostrums was so heavy as to be practically prohibitive. The firm however, was not to be baffled, and finding upon inquiry that the materials from which its goods were manufactured did not carry an impossibly high rate of import duty, it established a factory in Switzerland behind the Swiss tariff wall and employed Swiss labour, in which alone it found great economy.

POISON-PROOF.—The Berlin correspondent of one of the halfpenny London dailies has discovered an American who is at present in Berlin, a Captain Vetro, who can take as much poison as he likes without coming to any harm. Recently he gave an exhibition of his powers before a select company of Government officials and doctors. The show took the form of a dinner, and the dishes set before Captain Vetro consisted of a plate of verdigris, a quantity of ultramarine, and a mixture of sulphur and borax. The drinks were a solution of strychnine, and a bottle of patent rat-killer, made of powdered glass, arsenic, and atropine. Dessert was also provided in the shape of a large piece of "white sulphur"—whatever that may be. The officials and doctors expressed the opinion, so says the correspondent, that the whole affair was perfectly genuine.

COMMENDABLE RESOLUTIONS.—The resolutions passed at the meeting of the Union of Pharmaceutical Associations of Austria, held in Prague on October 9, are occupying the attention of all Austrian pharmacists. The Union is composed almost solely of assistants' associations. The first resolution passed with acclamation was to the effect that the President of the Union is bound to "boycott" (and to publish the fact) all pharmacists, whether proprietors or assistants, who damage the honour or standing of the profession by selling under the fixed prices, or by ill-treatment of assistants, &c. The second resolution seeks to prevent by all possible means undesirable persons from entering the ranks of pharmacy. Articles are to be published in the daily papers, "explanations" given in the schools, and parents publicly warned against entering their offspring on the pharmaceutical career.

ADVERTISING PROPRIETARIES IN RUSSIA.—The Russian Medical Department has published new rules about advertisements coming under medical censure. In future all medicaments, simple or compound, must pass the medical censure, also all cosmetics, or like remedies in common use which are not looked upon as medicaments. The same applies to all advertisements concerning doctors, dentists, pharmacists, and persons or firms dealing with drugs, and Russian and foreign health-resorts and bathing-establishments. The censure will be exercised by the Medical Council of the Ministry for the Interior, and by the local medical officers. Under the first rules come all advertisements relating to medicaments and preparations imported from foreign countries, and to medical practice and surgical apparatus. All other advertisements come under the censure of the local medical authorities. Russian pharmacists are of the opinion that this new gift from "above" will not tend to help an already hampered business.

TARRANT'S FIRE.—The latest reports show that the number of the missing at the fire in Messrs. Tarrant & Co.'s drug-premises, Warren Street, New York, is reduced to fourteen. It is stated that 2 tons of chlorate of potash



and 1 ton of sulphur were stored in the building, and not inconceivable that these catching fire caused the explosion. We give a sketch of the building which has been destroyed. It was a handsome stone structure in the modern American style, strongly built.

CANADA'S TRADE PREFERENCE.—Although the full extent of the preference of 33½ per cent. in favour of British goods has only been in force since July 1 last, it is evident, says the Montreal correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, from the trade and navigation returns just issued at Ottawa that the reduction of duty is having the desired effect, and that British trade with Canada is developing rapidly. The imports of British goods into Canada have risen from \$33,131,737 in 1895, to \$44,644,764 in 1900. The imports now are practically the same as in 1887, but since that time they steadily declined under the high protective duties of the Conservative governments until, in 1897-98, when the preference was introduced, they had fallen to about \$29,000,000. It is interesting to note that as a result of the preferential duties Canada's imports from Britain have increased 12.06 per cent. as against 11.77 per cent. with the United States.

WHAT NEXT?—A wedding in a drug-store at midnight is rather an unusual occurrence, but Scribner's pharmacy at Sixth and Jefferson Streets, Louisville, Ky., has had one. On October 8, shortly after 11 o'clock, a man and woman entered the store. They were nicely dressed and were prosperous looking. The man was embarrassed and haltingly called the night clerk, to one side. "We have eloped from Anderson, Ind.," he said, "and want to be married. I got here this afternoon and have the licence in my pocket. I expected the girl this afternoon, but she missed her train and did not arrive until to-night. Will you let us have the ceremony performed in here?" The groom pleaded earnestly and the clerk gave his permission. A minister was secured, and just as the bell of the City Hall tower across the street struck the hour of twelve, they were married. They answered to the names of George Hewling and Mamie Cole.

DR. ANDREW WILSON, in one of his Gilchrist Trust lectures, gives bovril a good word. He holds it to be more sustaining than ordinary beef extracts because of the special process by which albumen and fibrin of beef are added to beef extract to make bovril.

With the Guns.

DURING the progress of the war, we have published in the "War Notes" section of this journal, interesting communications from Volunteer compounders of the R.A.M.C., and from citizen soldiers of the infantry and mounted infantry. Now we are able to add the experience of a young pharmacist who served with the artillery. The battery of the C.I.V. to which he belonged, was, however, lost sight of for a long time, during many weeks of arduous service and hard fighting in the Orange Free State after the passing of Lord Roberts's grand army to the Vaal River and Pretoria. In regard to this period we have had a chat with Driver J. Stuart Hills, of the Honourable Artillery Company, and son of Mr. Walter Hills, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical



MR. J. STUART HILLS.

Society of Great Britain. The battery which the H.A.C. sent out with the Volunteers to South Africa consisted of four fully-equipped field-guns and teams; the guns used were the 12½-pounder Q.F. pattern, made by Vickers, Son & Maxim. The battery sailed from England in the *Montfort*, reached South Africa at the end of February, and went into camp at Greenpoint, where they remained about three weeks. They then marched to Stellenbosch, and shortly afterwards entrained in two sections. The right section under Major McMicking proceeded to Matjesfontein; the left section, to which Driver Hills belonged, went to Piquetberg Road under Captain Budworth, the Adjutant of the H.A.C., and an officer of the Royal Artillery. They were delayed here over two months, going through a strict training in all their duties. In May they entrained for Kroonstad (then the front), but they were still doomed to disappointment, having to detrain at Bloemfontein, where the battery encamped for over a month. In the middle of June, however, they had sudden orders to move, and on reaching Kroonstad soon got to work. One of their first duties was to take a convoy to General Paget's force in Lindley; the convoy was very strongly attacked by some of De Wet's force, and it was only after very hard fighting that the convoy was eventually brought into Lindley just in time, as the town's resources as regards food and ammunition were almost at an end, and the Boers had been shelling the town, and attacking

strongly at the same time. The C.I.V. battery was then attached to General Paget's force, which shortly afterwards marched south from Lindley, driving the Boers before it day after day they were on the march and constantly in action under fire. A few miles north of Bethlehem General Clements joined forces with General Paget, and on July 7 a general engagement was fought in which the C.I.V. battery took a prominent part; several hours' hard fighting resulted in the flight of the Boers and the occupation of Bethlehem. After a week General Paget advanced again, driving the Boers towards the Basutoland border, the C.I.V. battery again distinguishing itself at Fouriesburg and Slabbert's Nek. General Hunter then advanced from Bethlehem and completed the extended operations which eventually culminated in the surrounding and surrender of General Prinsloo and 4,000 of the Orange Free State burghers at Brandwater Basin.

In many of these operations the Volunteer battery took a very active part. On one occasion, Mr Hills tells us, as they were taking a convoy to Lindley, the Boers were on the hills and veldt all around them, and not content with harassing the rearguard of the convoy they set the veldt on fire and crept up under the smoke. The artillery, with its infantry supports, had to keep the Boers at bay while the convoy crossed a stiff drift over the river. The passing of the traction-engines and waggons delayed the advance, and the battery had to fight for several hours against rifle and shell fire in the midst of the smoke and burning veldt. On another occasion the battery was ordered to camp at the foot of a ridge which it was understood had been scouted. They were on their way in that direction between two forces of infantry in close formation, when they fell into a Boer ambush. At 800 yards a heavy rifle-fire was poured into the artillery and infantry from the ridge they were approaching, and a momentary panic was caused among the infantry. It was a tight corner, and, as Driver Hills says, the sensation of sitting still while volleys were being fired into your battery was very queer indeed. However, on General Paget's arrival on the scene the infantry spread out into skirmishing order and soon got to work, and the two guns were brought into action. Some tough fighting ensued until the right section of the C.I.V. battery, which had been heavily engaged with another part of the column, was able to come into action over heads of the left section; on this the Boers, thinking the position too hot for them, quickly retired.

At Bethlehem Mr. Hills was invalided with a bad foot, probably caused by crushing it with the shaft of the gun-carriage, and after a few days in hospital he found that General Prinsloo had surrendered to General Hunter with nearly 4,000 burghers. Driver Hills became attached as a "detail" to the Bedford Regiment, and afterwards to the Black Watch, and was present with them at a general engagement with Olivier's commando outside Heilbron. Eventually, however, he was transferred for Pretoria, and some ten weeks after going into hospital at Bethlehem he rejoined his battery at Waterval (in the bush veldt, to the north of Pretoria), where they were still under the command of General Paget, who was chasing a commando under Erasmus. Here the order of the day was constant trekking to and fro and round about on the wild veldt in the district between Pretoria and Warmbaths—in fact, they had such a lot of this kind of work under General Hickman, of Paget's command, that they were humorously referred to as "Hickman's Travelling Circus." This, so far as the C.I.V. were concerned, was the beginning of the end, as shortly afterwards Erasmus entered into an agreement for a cessation of hostilities while he discovered if it were true that General Botha had given up his command and that Mr. Kruger had left the Transvaal. During this cessation a telegram came one night ordering the Volunteer battery down to Pretoria.

The next day they marched the whole of the way to Waterval, a distance of 28 miles, without a halt, and after a farewell from General Paget, they proceeded to Pretoria. They remained four or five days outside the capital city while they handed in their horses and equipment. Lord Roberts came out and thanked the regiment, now complete, for its services, and on the following day they entrained for Cape Town. On their arrival they immediately embarked on the *Aurania*, and arrived on October 27 in Southampton Water.

Trade Notes.

C.I.V. PROCESSION.—Messrs. W. Butcher & Son, Blackheath, London, have ready a series of four cinematograph films of the C.I.V. procession taken from the roof of the Gloucester Gate Lodge, Hyde Park, which show the procession coming from Marble Arch.

CHRISTMAS WINDOWS.—The November number of *Advertising* (100 Fleet Street, E.C.) contains ideas for dressing windows for Christmas. Amongst the designs is a smart one for a perfume-window. The editor informs us that he will send a copy of *Advertising* to any C. & D. subscriber on application.

PEOPLE HAVE WONDERED what that poster, issued by the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, means, which represents a fine ox, whose shadow is cast on to the rich-coloured downs behind him, and the word "Lemco" cut out, showing the white chalk beneath. The celebrated "White Horse" in Wiltshire gave the idea.

THE English edition of Gildemeister and Hoffmann's "Volatile Oils," as translated by Professor Edward Kremers, Madison, Wis., has now been published, and we are indebted to Messrs. Schimmel & Co. for a copy of it, which has come through their London office, 27 Mincing Lane, E.C. It is as sumptuous a volume as the original German one, but we have not yet had time to do it reviewing justice, and will return to it again.

NEW-YEAR CALENDARS are offered by Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney (Limited), to retailers who buy certain quantities of coal-tar specialties. The calendar sent to us is "The Ladies Calendar for 1901," and 250 copies are given to those who buy specialties of 1 gross, value 27. 8s., or 1,000 for 67. 4s. worth of the goods. The chemist's name and address and his own advertising matter are displayed on front and back pages of cover free.

TIBBY'S CONCRETE PERFUMES is a saleable line introduced by Messrs. Jules Denoual & Co., Carlton Works, New Cross Road, S.E. The concrete perfumes are in the form of small perfumed medallions, appropriately coloured, and attractively put up on cards of half a gross. We are informed that the sale of these concrete perfumes is already enormous, which would seem to show that the popular fancy has been hit. Messrs. Denoual submit at the same time copies of the latest editions of their price-lists of lozenges, capsules, and perfumery.

DAVIS'S DOMESTIC YEAR-BOOK.—For the eighteenth time Mr. J. Davis, 90 Pepys Road, New Cross, S.E., is issuing his domestic year-book, an annual published for distribution by chemists. The year-book is illustrated, contains a lot of interesting and useful literary matter, and the prices quoted for the book include four and a-half pages of the chemist's own matter. If more space is required a small additional charge is made. There is also included in each book a six months' accident and insurance coupon. Chemists who are not yet fixed for their almanacks should get samples of these at once, or they will be too late to ensure a supply in time for distribution this year.

MESSRS. THOMAS CHRISTY & Co., Old Swan Lane, E.C., send us samples of three different kinds of Ruby Christia which is now being extensively used for covering photographic dark-room windows. For some time the firm were unable to supply this article, because they had large Government contracts for Christia as a surgical-dressing. They have now enlarged their works, and are able to supply Ruby Christia in any quantity. The light that comes through Ruby Christia is photographically safe. The material is obtained in pure colloidal sheet or in woven fabric, both of which are free from the pin-hole objection which applies to some other photographic window-coverings.

SANITAS NOVELTIES.—The Sanitas Company (Limited), Bethnal Green, E., have placed on the market some new articles for disinfecting with formaldehyde. The first of these is "Formitas"—a liquid preparation of Sanitas oil and formaldehyde. Formitas mixes with water to form a milk-like emulsion, has the nice smell of Sanitas, and, containing 20 per cent. of formaldehyde, forms one of the

pleasantest and most efficient disinfectants yet introduced. For general disinfection Formitas is diluted with water. It is likewise adapted for fumigation, for purifying the air, and making a solid disinfectant by impregnating sawdust or chalk. It sells in 6-oz. direct square bottles at 1s., or in bulk at 10s. a gal. The "Formic Air-purifier"—a 1s. 6d. article—is on a principle which the company have used for some time. The Purifier is made of a block of absorbent material held in an ornamental metal cage. The block as sent out is charged with formaldehyde, but when in use a cavity in the block is filled from time to time with "Formic Renovator-fluid," so that its usefulness continues as long as it is charged with the fluid.

MESSRS. ALLEN & HANBURYS (LIMITED), Bethnal Green, E., are putting up for Christmas trade a handsome series of perfumed caskets containing one to three bottles of highly-concentrated French essences. We illustrate one of the



caskets containing two bottles of perfume. The bottles are distinct in shape from any that we have hitherto noticed this year, and are well finished. The caskets are made of leatherette, with cushion top, and the inside is lined with artistically-tinted satin. There are over forty-four distinct perfumes to select from, and prices are exceedingly moderate, considering the richness of the get-up and the quality of the perfume. For example, the 1-oz. size illustrated, with two bottles in the box, is 36s. per dozen boxes.

REGARDING OUR C.I.V. NOTES of last week, we are reminded by a correspondent that Mr. T. P. Brett was not the only chemist and druggist in the C.I.V., for Mr. Charles Edward Saunders, of Highgate, was in the regiment, and went through the whole campaign. The portrait which we give is of Mr. Brett in the uniform of the 12th Middlesex.

WE had a call this week from Mr. J. H. Maiden, director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, and Government botanist of New South Wales. His visit to Europe has been for the purpose of arranging more thorough contact between his department and similar establishments in Europe, especially the United Kingdom. He returns to Australia next week.



MR. T. P. BRETT.

Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Chemical Society.

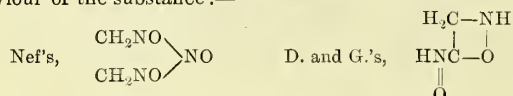
THE first meeting of the session was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, on Thursday evening, November 1, Professor Thorpe, F.R.S., C.P., presiding. The attendance was moderate, and was chiefly noted for the full front bench, on which sat Professors Thomson, Divers, Tilden, Dewar, and Ramsay; also Messrs. Greenaway, Groves, Wynne, and Hchner. Along with Professor Ramsay was his Excellency Professor Johannowitz, whose presence was notified by the PRESIDENT after the minutes had been signed. A long list of applications for the Fellowship was read, and included the names of Messrs. William Gas-on (Kimberley), John Gibson (Hexham), and G. S. V. Wills (London). No fewer than fifteen papers were on the programme, but five only of these were communicated to the meeting by the authors. The first was by Professor WYNDHAM R. DUNSTAN, F.R.S., and Mr. ERNEST GOULDING, B.Sc., on the action of alkalis on the

NITRO-COMPOUNDS OF THE PARAFFIN SERIES.

This was the second part of a research commenced by Professor Dunstan and Mr. Dymond ten years ago. In 1891 they published the results of their observations on the action of an alkali upon nitro-ethane, the result of which was the production of trimethyl isoxazole. In the present paper the action of ammonia upon nitro-methane was specially considered, and the authors have obtained methazonic acid, previously described by Lecco, and formulated by him, $C_2H_4N_2O_3$. The formation of this substance and its changes through hydrolysis, oxidation, and reduction were fully gone into. Its formation from nitro-methane cannot be explained by using Victor Meyer's formula, CH_3NO_2 but if nitro-



methane be regarded as $\begin{array}{c} O \\ | \\ H_2CNOH \end{array}$ there is no difficulty in showing how they conform. Nef some years ago suggested that the nitro-paraffins are derived from a tantomeride, hence the formula, as below; but the authors consider their style of plotting methazonic acid to most accord with the behaviour of the substance:—



Professor Dunstan referred to Nef's researches and to observations by others, his remarks substantially implying that he and Mr. Goulding have obtained more certain proof than previous observers.

This communication took up about half an hour, and was followed by one contributed by Dr. F. E. Matthews, of the Royal Engineering College, on

BENZONITRILE HYDROCHLORIDE.

Dr. MATTHEWS told the meeting in an unaffected manner and in three minutes how he allowed chlorine gas to bubble through benzonitrile (C_6H_5CN) and water, when the mixture became yellow. The liquid was exposed to light; it became colourless. Chlorine was passed through it again, and once more the liquid was exposed to light, the process being repeated until no more chlorine was absorbed. Then he isolated from the liquid a crystalline substance, which was found to be benzonitrile hexachloride, $C_6H_5Cl_6CN$. On hydrolysis with sulphuric acid at 170° to 180° C. the body was changed to $C_6H_5Cl_5CONH_2$ (benzamide hexachloride), and this on boiling with fuming nitric acid gave the hexachloride of benzoic acid, $C_6H_5Cl_6COOH$. Finally, this beautifully crystalline substance was boiled in water, in which it is but feebly soluble in the cold, and it was decomposed, carbon dioxide and hydrochloric acid being given off, and a white powdery precipitate formed which was $C_6H_5Cl_4$. This Dr. Matthews has proved to be tetra-chloride of chlorobenzene.

At the end of the communication the applause was exceptionally hearty, and Dr. Matthews was complimented highly. Then the Fellows had a bit of molecular philosophy in the shape of a paper on the influence of solvents on the

ROTATION OF OPTICALLY ACTIVE SUBSTANCES.

Dr. T. S. PATTERSON was the author, and he illustrated the communication with photo-pictures of curves thrown upon the wall by the electric lantern. The object of the research—of which this was Part I.—is to find if any law can be deduced from changes in rotation observed in different solutions at different temperatures. Ethyl tartrate was the optically active substance employed, and the solvents were water, methyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, propyl alcohol, and glycerin. In the case of water the data obtained showed that a 75-per-cent. solution gave a slightly higher rotation for ethyl tartrate than the pure substance, 50-per-cent. was still higher, 25-per-cent. again higher, and so on; while as the dilutions increased the rotation became less sensible to temperature-changes. Solutions in the other solvents showed similar functions, the degrees of difference varying, however, with the molecular weights of the solvents. A great deal of detail was submitted which need not be further referred to in this note, as our sole object is to draw the attention of those interested to the valuable data contained in the paper, with a view to their referring to it when published. The following are the titles of other papers communicated:—

- (1) "Rhamnazin and Rhamnetin," (2) "Luteolin—Part III.," (3) "Genistein—Part II.," and (4) "Colouring-matter of the Flowers of *Delphinium Consolida*," by Mr. A. G. Perkin and associates.

"The Action of Heat on Ethyl-sulphuric Acid," by Professor William Ramsay, F.R.S., and Mr. G. Rudolf (read by the former).

"The Amount of Chlorine in Rain-water Collected at Cirencester," by Edward Kinch.

"Contributions to the Knowledge of Fluorescent Compounds. Part I.: The Nitro-derivatives of Fluorescein," by Dr. J. T. Hewitt and Mr. Bryan W. Perkins (read by the former).

"The Reaction Between Ethyl Alcohol and Hydrochloric Acid," by Dr. T. Slater Price.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LIVERPOOL SECTION.

THE new session of this Section was opened at the Chemical Laboratories, University College, on October 31, when the CHAIRMAN (Mr. C. Longuet Higgins) discussed on "Acidimetry." The older methods for preparing standard solutions were described and criticised, and Mr. Higgins then described new work of his own on the preparation of an accurate standard solution of hydrochloric acid by passing pure, dry hydrochloric-acid gas into a weighed quantity of water, the increase of weight being noted. A method by Dr. Kohn was also given, which depends on the electrolysis of pure copper sulphate, the amount of acid contained in the final solution being judged from the amount of metallic copper thrown down.

LONDON SECTION.

THE meeting on Monday, November 5, was very fully attended, as Mr. Lloyd Wise, the well-known expert on

PATENT LAW.

was down to read a paper on his subject. The chair was taken shortly after 8 o'clock by Mr. Otto Hehner, and Mr. Swan, President of the Society, occupied a seat on the dais. Mr. Lloyd Wise's paper was of an exceedingly technical nature, and, although of the greatest value and interest to the manufacturer of an inventive turn of mind, was of little interest to the pharmacist. Whilst dealing in general with amendment of English patent law, and the lessons to be learned from foreign countries, the chief point which he dwelt upon was the onus of deciding upon the patentability or not of a given invention by the Government officials. When an inventor seeks to patent his invention, and the examiners of patents find it to a greater or less extent anticipated, are they to have the power to reject or accept the patent? The great variation in opinion in cases which have gone up to the House of Lords is strongly against such a course. The alternative is twofold. Either the Patent Office may endorse the patent with a reference to

previous inventions in which anticipation is clear in a greater or less sense, or they may inform the patentee of their search, and allow him to decide whether to withdraw, proceed, or amend. Under any circumstances, the patentee and the public must be treated with the same fairness, and the public have a right to know as much as the Government officials may tell the patentee when they are paying for the search. Incidentally the author mentioned that patents were refused in Germany for the Bessemer steel process, and for Siemens' regenerative-furnace, the latter on the grounds that, in the Middle Ages, dwellings were warmed by heating large stones and placing them in the rooms, &c.

Mr. Oscar Guttman, the explosives expert, was to have followed, with a paper on the

MANUFACTURE OF SULPHURIC AND NITRIC ACIDS.

Mr. Lloyd Wise filled up the evening, however. We reproduce a table which Mr. Guttman exhibited, and which explains itself:—

A.D. 1771.—OIL OF VITRIOL.

	£	s.	d.
1,296 lbs. sulphur at 2½ <i>d.</i> ...	13	10	0
234 lbs. nitre at 7 <i>s.</i> cwt. ...	7	6	3
	20	16	3
Deduct drawback, 10 <i>l.</i> ton ...	5	15	9
	15	0	6
Retorting, 1 <i>d.</i> lb. ...	10	16	0
	25	16	6

Yield, 2,592 lbs.; sp. gr., 1·844; cost per ton, without labour, 22*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* per ton; sold at 35*l.* per ton.

A.D. 1771.—AQUA FORTIS.

	£	s.	d.
200 lbs. nitre, 70 <i>s.</i> cwt. ...	6	5	0
104 lbs. vitriol, 3½ <i>d.</i> lb. ...	1	15	1
5 cwt. coal ...	2		1
	8	2	2

Without labour, cost 9¾*d.* per lb.=90*l.* 16*s.* per ton.

The prices given for the various qualities of nitric acid were as follows:—

	s.	d.
Pure spirit of nitre, 1·485 ...	3	6
Builders' aq. fortis, 1·375 ...	1	8
Brassfounders' aq. fortis, 1·500 ...	1	8
Assayers', 1·250 ...	1	3
Refiners', 1·250 ...	1	3
Best platina, 1·559 ...	1	1
Weak platina, 1·437 ...	10	
12-penny aq. fortis, 1·523 ...	1	0

One has only to contrast these data with the market-prices of to-day to realise what strides have been made in this part of industrial chemistry.

MANCHESTER SECTION.

The opening meeting was held at the Victoria Hotel on November 2. Dr. GROSSMANN presided, and delivered an address on

THE STUDY OF CHEMISTRY.

Dr. Grossmann said that within the last twenty-five years the study of chemistry had increased in this country to an alarming extent. Among the chemists in the country many had to confess that their walk in life had been taken in the wrong direction. The reasons were twofold. Some young men had taken up chemistry as a profession, because they had relatives who could take them up before long. Such students were not likely to make much headway. A love of the profession was one of the essential conditions of success. After dealing at length with the teaching of science in our elementary schools, he said that within the last two years the German universities have divided practical work in chemistry into two distinct parts—a preliminary part, in which the student receives a good all-round education, and is specialised for analytical work; and the final part, in which he is specialised for taking up original research. He

believed it desirable for a similar arrangement to be adopted in the colleges in this country. He recommended that those students who intend to go into technical work may with advantage be set to work out new analytical methods, to examine old and doubtful methods, or to work through new processes such as can be found in patent specifications, or in similar work.

A brief discussion followed, but we could extract nothing from it more cogent than the Chairman's remarks.

NOTTINGHAM SECTION.

The session was inaugurated by a well-attended meeting on October 31 at University College, Nottingham, when the CHAIRMAN (Professor F. Stanley Kipping, F.R.S.) gave an address on the development of

INDUSTRIAL ORGANIC CHEMISTRY.

The professor dwelt on the great advances made in the preparation of synthetic remedies. The discovery of antipyrin by Knorr led to a search for other products having similar or allied physiological properties, and he instanced acetanilide, exalgin, and a number of others as following it. Sulphonal was quoted as another example of a synthetic drug, discovered almost by chance, and quickly followed by the preparation of trional and tetralol, which have a similar action. As an instance showing how slight a change in structure may profoundly alter the physiological action of a compound, the formulae of these three soporifics were compared with that of a closely-allied compound which is devoid of any such properties. The difficulties connected with the alkaloids, quinine, morphine, &c., whose constitution we hardly yet know, were referred to, but cocaine was mentioned as an exception—although the complete building-up of this valuable substance has not yet been accomplished, its true constitution has been determined.

A modern improvement in the manufacture of common ether, by using benzene-sulphonic acid instead of sulphuric acid to act on the alcohol, was explained, and shown to possess considerable advantages over the old process, which, although theoretically continuous, is not so in reality.

The manufacture of formaldehyde has recently acquired considerable importance. It is largely used as an antiseptic and as a reducing-agent. Saccharin and dulcine, or sucrol, were also mentioned, Professor Kipping saying it is a curious fact that although bees will steal sugar, they turn away from saccharin and dulcine.

In no department has chemistry made more surprising advances than in that of building up the perfumes of flowers. One of the first substances thus made was vanillin, which about twenty years ago Tiemann and Haarmann prepared by the oxidation of coniferin with chromic acid. Numerous patents followed this discovery, and the price of the vanillin has been reduced from 350*l.* per kilo. in 1876 to 4*l.* 10*s.* in 1899. Another perfume synthetically produced is heliotropin, which in 1879 was 150*l.* per kilo., against 2*l.* now. Another comparison is coumarin, the price of which was 20*l.* per kilo. in 1880, as against 2*l.* 10*s.* now.

Oil of lemon depends for its flavour on citral. The extraction of the citral in the pure state gives a preparation seventy-five parts of which are equal to a thousand of the oil, and thus effects a saving in transport, and produces a more reliable product which does not decompose. [This is, of course, but part of the truth. Citral is not the sole odorous principle of lemon oil.—EDITOR.] After explaining the artificial production of musk by Baur, Professor Kipping proceeded to deal with the classical work of Tiemann and Krüger on the essence of the violet-flower, an investigation that is said to have cost at least 5,000*l.*, and resulted in the discovery of ionone.

Dr. Kipping then referred to synthetic dyes of which upwards of 400 are actually used in commerce, regretting that this should now be an almost exclusively German industry—a matter, however, not to be wondered at, when one firm alone employs 150 trained chemists. The remaining portion of the address was devoted to cellulose, and its conversion into various products, such as xylonite, viscose, and artificial silk. Illustrated as the Chairman's remarks were by quite a little museum of specimens, they were intensely interesting to the industrial chemist.

The next meeting will be held in Derby on November 28.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE ordinary weekly meeting of this Association was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on Thursday evening, November 1, Mr. Dewhirst (President), in the chair. It was an Exhibition evening, and some interesting specimens of drugs and pharmacy were shown by various members.

THE PRESIDENT, in opening the proceedings, showed some well-preserved anatomical specimens, and a branch from a young cork oak showing an extraordinary growth of bark for so young a tree. He also presented a specimen of betulin, in the form of white powder, having remarkable antiseptic properties, and made from the bark of the birch-tree mixed with potassium nitrate. The powder when heated and the vapour passed through lint or any similar substance, had a most extraordinary antiseptic effect upon the substance itself. Mr. Dewhirst also showed the Japanese method of teaching *matéria medica*, being a pictorial representation on wood of the leaves, bark, and fruit of particular trees and plants. This was lent by Mr. E. M. Holmes.

GASCOYNE AND CONTRAYERVI BOLUSES.

MR. MORLEY TAYLOR had brought for show two bottles containing some rather uncommon present-day pharmaceutical preparations, in the shape of globuli contrayervi and globuli gascoyni. These had been made some forty years ago, and kept in glass shop-rounds. So far as he could find out, there was no demand at all for them in the present day. He found reference to them in the 1851 edition of "Beasley." In the London Pharmacopoeia of 1878, in "Quincey's Dispensatory," 1718, and in other old dispensing-books they were also mentioned. One of the oldest of the formulæ was as follows: white coral, burnt hartshorn, oriental benzoar, black tips of crabs' claws, made into a paste with a jelly of vipers. This was published in "Quincey's Dispensatory." "Beasley" gave crabs' claws and mucilage, and Mr. Morley thought this had in time degenerated into prepared chalk. The original form given of contrayervi bolus was contrayervi, American snake-root, cochineal, saffron, Armenian bole, and pulv. Gascoyne co. This was evidently used as a diaphoretic, and he found a note in "Quincey's Dispensatory" that this formulæ was justly preferred by physicians to Gascoyne's powder. Mr. Morley understood that these boluses had been sold within the last twenty years in London, and as one very rarely came across them, he thought it might be interesting to show them. (Applause.)

FLIES IN AMBER.

MR. A. F. GOODE exhibited some very fine specimens of genuine flies in amber, the chief point of interest being that the flies embedded in the solid substance were of extinct species. The exhibitor referred to the fact that Byron and Pope were also interested in this subject, and quoted from the works of those poets.

DRUG-SPECIMENS.

MR. COUPLAND showed some interesting drug-specimens as follows:—Country ipecacuanha from Goa; manaca-root, said to be used largely as a food and containing much starchy matter; Butea kino, Botany Bay kino, and African kino; wild cardamoms of very large size; a cowhage-pod minus the distinctive hairs; white and brown ipecacuanha, the latter said to contain 9 per cent. of emetin; senna seeds, sapodilla-seeds, Bombay orris-root, physic-nut, Mora-seeds and Bouduc seeds, artificial camphor, Job's tears, Japanese isinglass, jambul seeds, &c., the whole making an interesting exhibit.

MR. HYMANS asked if there was any difference between so-called kino and eucalyptus red gum, and also if anyone could tell him the reason for the extraordinary fluctuation in the price of kino? Eucalyptus red gum and kino did not appear to be very different in physical properties.

THE PRESIDENT thought the fluctuation in price might probably be due to the "bulls" and "bears" in drug circles; he could not answer Mr. Hymans's question, but he understood that eucalyptus red gum was to be included in the B.P. Colonial Addendum. [See B.P. 1898, page 100.—EDITOR.]

CAMERAS AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS.

MR. C. Hymans showed a very fine specimen of a binocular camera, and also a kodak panoramic camera, to take a view

around the horizon of 140 degrees. He also exhibited Dr. Siechel's cabinet for staining blood films, a very handy little arrangement, supplied chiefly, it was stated, to naval hospitals. A pocket-spectroscope was another very beautiful little instrument for rough work in the laboratory, and an electric photographic lamp containing a small dry battery in the stand of the lamp, found general admiration.

ANTIQUE EXHIBITS.

MR. J. W. Peck showed an old quassia cup sent from Jamaica forty or fifty years ago, and an interesting stone mortar, said to be obtained from the city of Herculaneum. Certainly one of the most interesting exhibits of the evening was an old MS. physic-book of the fourteenth century, beautifully written in coloured inks in old English type. Mr. Peck showed a reprint of some of the rules contained in the book, which was said to be the property of the queen of Edward II.

FALSE SAFFRON.

MR. MATTHEWS exhibited an old "Treasury of Drugs Unlocked," and read one or two interesting passages from it concerning drugs and chemicals. He also showed a specimen of spurious saffron, which

MR. DEWHIRST, on examination, thought was calendula-florets. He had seen similar specimens some short time before.

MR. HYMANS thought this most likely came from Italy, as the Italians are very clever in the sophistication of drugs. Some time previously he had a specimen which contained powdered barium sulphate—no doubt added for the purpose of making weight.

THE PRESIDENT also stated a similar experience, only that the specimen he examined contained a potassium salt.

This terminated the proceedings.

Association at Barnsley.

A MEETING of the chemists of Barnsley and district was held at the Queen's Hotel, Barnsley, on November 1, to consider the question of forming an association. Present: Messrs. James Wood, A. R. Tomlin, H. B. Billington, J. Willsher, W. Moorhouse, E. Nash, and W. Rigby (Barnsley), J. E. Matthew and J. Willey (Hoyland), J. Ellisson (Hoyland Common), G. A. Pickering (Royston), O. A. Hollingworth and J. P. Norwood (Wath).

MR. W. RIGBY, who had called the meeting, said he had thought for a long time that a movement of this kind would do much good. The letters he had received from other chemists showed that they were of the same way of thinking. He had been asked what were the benefits that an association would give them. Well, if it did no more than bring them together and caused a better feeling amongst them, it would be well worth the trouble. But there were other advantages. Chemists could do little individually in looking after legislation concerning the trade, but with an association they would be more effective. Then there was the question of patent medicines and proprietary articles; if they could arrange to get from 1*l.* or 1½*d.* on this class of goods, which were at present cut down to cost, the difference would cover the shop-rent. They were all agreed as to the injustice of the law as it at present stood in regard to the trading of companies, yet he thought that it should not be the policy of an association to be always in antagonism to companies; there were advantages to be gained by working, where possible, with them, rather than against them.

MR. ELLISSON (Hoyland Common) said an association of this kind had been wanted for more than twenty years; he had suggested it several times, but nothing had come of it. He thought it was the duty of the Pharmaceutical Society's local secretary to have organised an association years ago, but during all the years he had been in business there had never been a meeting of Barnsley chemists until this one.

MR. H. B. BILLINGTON said he had only been local secretary for the past year, and he had intended to suggest the forming of an association, but sickness and pressure of business had prevented him from going on with it, until his friend Mr. Rigby had forestalled him.

MR. W. MOORHOUSE proposed that an association, to be called the "Barnsley and District Chemists' Association," be formed. This was seconded by Mr. ELLISSON, and carried unanimously.

Mr. W. Rigby and Mr. E. Nash were elected (*pro tem.*) Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Mr. A. R. TOMLIN suggested that it would be advisable to defer the election of officers until next meeting. Messrs. A. R. Tomlin, H. B. Billington, J. Wood, and E. Nash were elected a committee to assist the Secretary in procuring information as to the working of similar associations, to formulate rules, and make a report for the consideration of next meeting, when it is expected Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones will attend.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH.

THE winter meetings of the committee were resumed on Friday evening, November 2, in the rooms, Garfield Chambers, Mr. W. J. Gibson, in the chair. The HON. SECRETARY (Mr. W. J. Rankin), announced letters of apology for non-attendance from Mr. J. Watson (Vice President), Mr. J. Walsh, Mr. A. R. Hogg, and others. Mr. J. McConkey, who was present for the first time since his appointment on the committee, received a cordial welcome from the Chairman and Mr. Rankin. In briefly acknowledging the compliment, Mr. McConkey alluded to the rather serious accident which had recently befallen Mr. J. Brown, who had sustained a painful fracture of the knee-cap through his bicycle skidding. A vote of sympathy was ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Brown.

THE PRESIDENT'S RETURN TO PARLIAMENT.

Mr. FRACKLETON referred with satisfaction to the return of their President, Sir James Haslett, to the House of Commons. He thought the committee and the entire drug-trade throughout the country had good reason to be proud of Sir James, who had always defended their interests when occasion arose.

The CHAIRMAN said that some members of their committee had devoted themselves unreservedly to secure Sir James's return, and they were all well pleased with the result.

Mr. RANKIN said no one worked more energetically than their Chairman, who with his brother, Mr. Samuel Gibson, had done yeoman service. Their President was the only representative of the drug-trade in the House of Commons, and it would have been a very serious matter not only for their own section of the trade, but also for pharmaceutical chemists, had Sir James been beaten.

FUTURE MEETINGS.

The HON. SECRETARY inquired if it was the mind of the committee that the meetings should be held regularly every month as formerly during the winter. Mr. FRACKLETON was strongly in favour of meeting regularly and adopting some method for getting the young men in the trade interested in the Society. He suggested that the next meeting should assume the character of a musical evening, and that an effort should be made to secure a large attendance, even if a small sum should be required for admission. The CHAIRMAN said he was in sympathy with Mr. Frackleton's idea, but thought admission should be free. He undertook, if permitted, to meet the cost in another way. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Gibson's proposal was unanimously adopted, and a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Carse, Frackleton, Acheson, Gibson, and Rankin, was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. It was further decided to hold the ordinary meetings of the committee on Wednesday afternoon instead of Friday.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

At the meeting of this Association held on November 6 at the County Restaurant, Mr. T. H. WARDLEWORTH, of Liverpool, lectured on

THE FRONTIERS OF THE DRUG-TRADE.

The President (Mr. Silson) occupied the chair, and there was an attendance of over twenty members. Mr. Wardleworth began his paper by saying that the time was when each man had to be his own materia-medica expert, and had to gather or grow the herbs that he required. To-day the chemist finds it more to his purpose to employ men whose

time is entirely devoted to the collection, selection, and preservation of the various drugs he requires. So there are men who are practically on the frontier, who are the first to meet the crude drug, examine its credentials, and to allow it free entrance into the dominion of drugs, or to stop it summarily and refuse its admission among well-accredited members of the kingdom of materia medica. For some years past it has been the lot of the writer of this paper to stand very much in the position of one who watches the frontier, to inspect critically drugs which are brought from over seas, and to reject such as may be bad, and place into use those that may be worthy.

Mr. Wardleworth then exhibited a number of samples: first, three of ipecacuanha—(1) the thick striated ipecacuanha (*Psychotria emetica*), which is absolutely valueless, yet large parcels are shipped to this country, and advances made upon it; (2) the smaller variety of ipecacuanha, "small striated" from Babia, not so frequent a visitor; and (3) *Ionidium Ipecacuanha*, none of which find favour with the druggists, although it is asserted that they are very efficacious in the countries in which they are grown. Jaborandi was the next drug shown, and this also in three varieties—the false Maranham (containing no pilocarpine), the small-leaved jaborandi, and the spurious variety of jaborandi coming from Ceara. It would be better to make the small-leaved jaborandi official, said Mr. Wardleworth, as the percentage of pilocarpine is about 3, compared with the $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the official description. At present the small-leaved variety is only used for manufacturing-purposes. Attention was next drawn to a sample of ispaghul-seed, which promises to attract more attention in this country now, as it is found to be an excellent remedy in chronic diarrhoea. Some beans forwarded from Bolivia were said to be a panacea for consumption, but further consignments have not been ordered. The next sample represented a shipment of so-called rhatany-root, to which it had no relation whatever. Sassy wood, or ordeal bark of Western Africa, strophantus in the pod, horse-eye beans, and two curious specimens of vanilla from the Amazon were next shown, also the algorra-bean from Chili, which is used as a cattle-food, ginseng-root, musk-seed, and *Garcinia Kola* seed, which is used in Africa for much the same purposes as the seed of the *Stereulia acuminata*, but which finds little or no favour here. The lecturer then referred to a new form of Indian hemp which was said to be largely used for shipment to Egypt. It is in cake and seems to be composed entirely of the resinous dust taken from the plant. [This is cbaras apparently.—EDITOR.] The kuromoji oil of Japan was next exhibited; it was said to deserve attention for perfuming-purposes, but up to the present has received little favour; the Calabash nutmeg (*Monodora grandiflora*), from the West Coast of Africa, which also has a most agreeable odour, but still lacks recognition. An occasional packet or bag of the seed comes forward with evident high expectation on the part of the shipper, only to be relegated to the back of a warehouse and be ultimately thrown away. The soap-berry of Brazil is largely used in that country for cleansing-purposes, and a specimen of it was shown, as it merits more attention than it gets here.

The work of drug-buying on the frontier is not without its humour. The writer once had an inquiry from a chemist for the market-value of simiacine, with an intimation that a supply might be sent if it were not too dear. Now, no one likes to leave a problem unsolved, and many were the searches made to provide the customer with the desired drug. Every known authority was consulted, and then the customer was advised that it could not be traced. The papers were laid aside with regret to await developments. On the Sunday following the week of investigation, the writer was seated quietly in the bosom of his family preparing to carve the dinner joint, when all at once one of the feminine members of his home circle asked from the other end of the table, "What is simiacine?" Had a bombshell fallen into into the midst of that circle, it could hardly have created more astonishment. "What do you know about simiacine?" was the Scotch answer given, and this elicited the fact that during the week the lady before referred to had been reading a story associated with the West Coast of Africa, and the interest of the novel revolved upon a powerful drug known as simiacine. The story was that certain traders discovered that the extraordinary

trength of the ourang-outang was due to the chewing of a certain herb which grew on an isolated plateau in the interior of Africa. An expedition was formed for the procuring of the drug, and its realisation in the European market. Most wonderful stories were told of its efficacy for renewing energy and giving strength to exhausted nature; but the plant-hunters, after passing through the most wonderful adventures, failed to bring their booty to Europe. Demand was at once made for the novel, and the details rapidly scanned; and it was with joy that the writer was able to communicate to the inquiring customer that the drug for which he inquired, and for which search had been made, had flourished only in the fertile brain of a novelist.

The PRESIDENT, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Wardleworth for his lecture, expressed his surprise that the false ipecacuanha should have such good effects in other countries. He was led to wonder whether the difference of effect was due to differences of diet. Perhaps something might be due to the fact that the people in Brazil ate less beef and drank less whisky than we in Great Britain do.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Alderman DUNN, who said that he had thoroughly enjoyed the paper, and had felt very much interested in the specimens, which would be particularly interesting to their young members and students, as helping them to distinguish between genuine articles and their substitutes. He had only one question to ask the lecturer, and that was, if he would tell them what the Chinese wax was really composed of.

The resolution was put, and carried unanimously.

Mr. WARDLEWORTH, in reply, said with regard to ipecacuanha that something depended upon climatic influences. No doubt in the tropics the heat would add to the activity of certain drugs. He could not explain what the fault of Chinese wax was: it simply differed in properties from those of the genuine article.

Before the meeting terminated it was determined that the Association should invite all West Riding chemists to a conference in Bradford on November 20, for the consideration of the clauses of the new Pharmacy Bill, and the hope was expressed that this gathering would do something to stimulate association-work in the West Riding.

Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

THE session opened on Wednesday evening, October 31, with an address by the PRESIDENT (Mr. J. P. Gilmour), on

"PHARMACEUTICAL ETHICS."

The questions considered were the relations between master and servant, servant and master, master and master, pharmacist and physician, and pharmacist and public.

MASTER AND SERVANT.

This combination resembles marriage, as it calls for all the arts and resources of mutual forbearance and goodwill. Legally, no more than an oral agreement regulated by the custom of the trade, the compact has deep-seated moral issues. The complaints about the degeneracy of assistants are occasionally justified. But bad masters make bad servants, and some of these, becoming masters in their turn perpetuate the vicious succession. On the other hand, the grievances of assistants are often imaginary or exaggerated. The employer of the old school, comparing the troublous, laborious days of his own pupilage with these more generous, halcyon times, concludes that the new type of assistant must be a fretful ill-conditioned fellow to be discontented with his lot; he forgets that if the conditions of shop-life are less burdensome on some sides, they are more oppressive on others. Business used to be done in a slow sociable way; it is now transacted with breathless haste, which means concentrated and exhausting effort. The demands of study are also more insistent; so that, on the whole, the bodily and mental strain is greater than it used to be. It is, therefore, incumbent on a good master, even at some sacrifice of his own comfort and convenience, to give his assistants reasonable leave of absence for recreation and study. Business must not be neglected, but business is made the stalking-horse of many lame and infirm excuses. All that is needed to solve the problem in nine cases out of ten, is a little

common-sense and self-denial on both sides. Masters make a great mistake in not treating capable and trustworthy assistants more liberally. A good, conscientious servant is always more profitable than a faithless, futile one, and although the "iron law of wages" does not discriminate, human intelligence and sympathy ought to do so. Another serious injustice to worthy assistants is due to the gross abuse of the testimonial system. From misplaced motives of clemency, employers give the offender "another chance" of competing on equal terms with men who have not the good fortune to be blackguards. The lying or misleading testimonial represents one of the most immoral acts of which an employer can be guilty. It is one of the leading causes to be reckoned with when we come to analyse the causes of the incompetency and profligacy of assistants.

ASSISTANT AND ASSISTANT.

If assistants are ever to occupy a more dignified and influential position as a class they must learn the elements of self-reliance, self-control, and legitimate *esprit de corps*. Systematic concealment of the incapacity and wrongdoing of fellow-assistants inevitably degrades and enslaves the whole class. There are thousands of assistants in pharmacy who are a curse to themselves and a disgrace to their order. They are dead to all moral appeal, and we have no legal disciplinary power over them. If we would exclude most of the unfit in future, we must insist on an assistant's legal qualification, which shall be liable to suspension or annulment in the event of misconduct. It is, perhaps, more their misfortune than their fault that assistants, as a body, are so apathetic and unenterprising in regard to their common good. Even when they do succeed in forming local associations the membership is meagre, the meetings thin, and there is the greatest difficulty in mustering men with sufficient public spirit to serve on the committee.

MASTER AND MASTER.

Hitherto the pharmacist has been essentially a solitary man alike in his training and his vocation, with all a recluse's vices of temperament, thought, and habit. Hence the arrogance, exclusiveness, and distrustfulness, which the average pharmacist exhibits towards his *confrères* (?) Competition is the convenient conscience salve for many abuses which are really of personal origin. Late shop-hours, mendacious advertisements and price-lists in which one chemist accuses his neighbours of extorting 400 per cent. (*sic*) profit from the public, invidious sham safeguards, such as the so-called checking of prescriptions, kidnapping of a neighbour's "popular" assistant, and the prostitution of the legal qualification by "store" methods of "enterprise," are all forms of malpractice and immorality which might be suppressed or averted if the majority of registered chemists were only members of the Pharmaceutical Society. In that case it would be easy to get statutory power to suspend the certificate of recalcitrant members, or even to cancel it. The causes which are coming into operation to raise the breed of assistants will, later on, improve the race of masters. At present masters, like assistants, show a lamentable want of public spirit and cohesion. The Pharmaceutical Society's plan of divisional secretaries is in danger of collapsing in Glasgow, because men cannot be got for the posts. This is pathognomonic of the magnitude and mischievousness of the evil, which emasculates pharmaceutical politics and life.

PHARMACIST AND PHYSICIAN.

It is the part of the good pharmacist to dispense physician's prescriptions, strictly according to the intention of the prescriber, with a watchful eye to overdoses and incompatibility, and to avoid any utterance or act that might tend to disturb the patient's confidence in his medical adviser. The acquaintance of medical men with pharmacy is the most formidable difficulty here. This disability is being gradually removed. If it is ever to disappear, the part of the medical curriculum which deals with *materia medica* and pharmacy will need to be enlarged at the expense of less-important subjects. The teaching of *materia medica* and pharmacy ought to be in the hands of pharmacists, and to pave the way for this we shall have to agitate for the institution of a Doctorate of Pharmacy. The medical

man has legally the right to dispense his own medicines, and, in Scotland, he goes a step further, and keeps what is practically an inferior pharmacy. Partly by way of reprisal, partly through the importunity of ignorant or niggardly customers, the pharmacist goes in for counter-prescribing. Thus we have a twofold danger. Physicians who are really unqualified dispensers compound medicines, and pharmacists who are unqualified and often incompetent physicians, give medical advice. Of the two dangers the latter is probably the greater. The medical men who keep shops do not do so from wanton desire to injure the pharmacist. They are victims of the struggle for existence. It is a somewhat mean revenge to report their unqualified assistants for prosecution, while at the same time keeping unqualified dispensers oneself. The subterfuge of supervision is too thin. There is surely a nobler way. There is hope of deliverance from various quarters. For one thing, the constant endeavour of the General Medical Council to elevate and refine the profession is beginning to tell. Much discussion has taken place over the practice, by no means common, of paying commission to a medical man on his prescriptions. There is nothing essentially unjust in such an arrangement, although it is liable to serious abuse, as when the medical man in order to induce the patient to go to a particular druggist puffs him, or disparages other druggists; or when, using similar methods, the pharmacist acts as tout for the physician. Such arrangements run all through business-life, and their legitimacy must be determined by circumstances.

PHARMACIST AND PUBLIC.

A paternal Government saves even the most knavishly inclined pharmacist from himself in respect of unjust weights and the deliberate adulteration of drugs. The ideal relation between the pharmacist and the public would be one of mutual confidence, good will, and service. This is rarely realised, even in part, and then only under exceptionally favourable conditions. The evils of unbridled competition and the crass ignorance of the public are the chief hindrances to a consummation of the ideal. There need never be any dubiety as to the broad, general lines of dealing with the public. These should be marked by equity, candour, honesty, and honour. It is the special cases that cause perplexity. Mr. Gilmour then spoke of the nostrum trade and of the sale of "immoral appliances."

The address was followed by a brief and somewhat desultory discussion. A vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Gilmour for his address.

Edinburgh and District Chemists' Association.

At a meeting held at 32 York Place, Edinburgh, on November 5, Mr. W. S. Glass presiding, Mr. GLYN-JONES explained the benefits which membership of the

CHEMISTS' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION

conferred and the directions in which these had been extended since the Association was first started. In the course of the address, he said the Pharmaceutical Society is not in a position at present to investigate the conditions under which pharmacies are being conducted to-day. They can only deal with cases actually reported to them. They never looked for cases. That was what he was constantly hearing at the Council. He did not think it was wise that they should be depending purely and simply upon reports that might come to them from their members. It was not a nice thing for a chemist to have to report upon a neighbour, and over and over again people said this Act was altogether a farce, and that they had themselves to blame. That was all very well, but the authorities who enforced other Acts did not wait until reports were brought to them by interested parties. He was speaking now as an individual and not as a person controlling the Association, but he thought something useful might at some time be done by the Association in looking out and investigating cases under the Pharmacy Acts, and making it their duty to bring the matter before the attention of Bloomsbury Square. He was one of those who thought that the Council in the Square would not suffer from a little goading-on occasionally, and if the Association could do anything to bring it under the notice of the Phar-

maceutical Council so that action might be taken, some little good might be done.

Questions were then invited.

The CHAIRMAN asked if, when he stated that there was 1,000*l.* in reserve, Mr. Glyn-Jones meant that one thousand members had joined?

Mr. BOWMAN wished to know whether the subscription of 10*s.* 6*d.* covered risk to everyone engaged?

Mr. C. F. HENRY, in the course of some remarks, said chemists in Edinburgh should support the P.A.T.A. for this reason—that it had already done them some amount of good, as he understood that the stores in Edinburgh now invariably kept up to P.A.T.A. prices, and that was not the case formerly. There had been a rumour floating about in London that that state of matters did not exist, that one large store was able to sell P.A.T.A. articles with great freedom below the P.A.T.A. prices, and that if one article could be cut the same might apply to all the articles. But they must remember that no Association was perfect, and that it was quite possible that might happen to a certain extent. With regard to the Defence Association, he admitted that he was at first rather against it. He thought it was a case of giving the Association too much to do, and that the whole energies of the Association should be confined to making the P.A.T.A. a success. But the good work already done, and the explanations given by Mr. Glyn-Jones that day, had changed his mind. Mr. Henry concluded by moving a resolution in support of the Associations, whereupon

Mr. ARCH. CURRIE moved the previous question. Mr. Glyn-Jones had said that for the last year he supposed the savings of the trade had been 30,000*l.* He did not know how he made that calculation, but it was an attempt to rig the market, and any attempt in that direction was bound to fail. He did not think it was worth a chemist's while supporting the Association—at least they in Scotland—who did not depend on proprietary medicines for a living. He objected to the Chemists' Defence Association on the ground that it was a very grandmotherly affair. Chemists were supposed to be educated persons, and he thought it was the duty of an educated person to make himself conversant with those Acts which affected his own business. Besides, if a member was indemnified against such mistakes as were referred to, did they not think it would lead to acts of carelessness in dispensing when they knew that the Association would indemnify them to the extent of 500*l.*? But there was this, also—that the chemist was doing what he ought not to do, and raising bad blood with members of other professions, who got these Acts passed for their own protection, and rightly so. It was the duty of every chemist to see that his stock was up to the proper standard.

Mr. R. H. HENDRY seconded the motion made by Mr. C. F. Henry, and, as there was no seconder to the previous question, the motion was adopted.

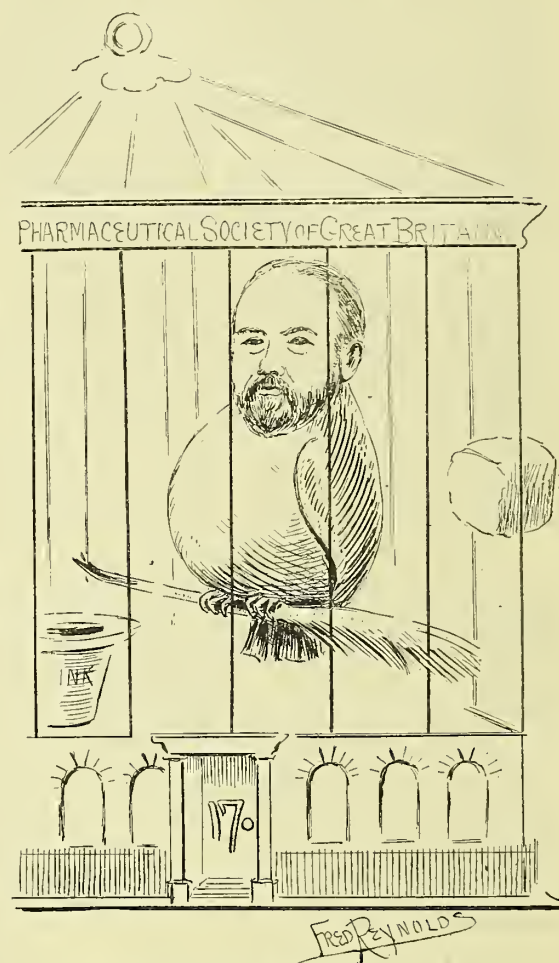
Mr. GLYN-JONES said he could not see the force of Mr. Currie's criticism. He refused to support the P.A.T.A. because it saved only 3*l.* to each chemist, but he (Mr. Glyn-Jones) thought that was a very fair return for his 5*s.* subscription. With regard to the abstract question whether it was grandmotherly or contrary to free-trade, he said they might stay two hours discussing that point, but he would say this—that proprietary articles were essentially outside the range of ordinary commercial articles. They were in themselves artificial, and it was not a question of trying to make a corner. They were dealing, first of all, with an artificial article. If he were a proprietor of that artificial article, and thought it was to his interest to lay down certain conditions on which he could sell these goods, surely there was nothing very grandmotherly about him laying down these conditions and refusing to sell them to those who did not act up to these conditions. It was a reasonable thing to do and did not touch the question of free trade. With regard to Mr. Currie's objection that these articles were things that chemists ought to do without selling, before they answered that question they had to consider. Some of them were quack-medicines; but those chemists who were in a position to say they would not have a quack-medicine in their place were greatly to be envied. There were not many of them—(applause)—but those very people who could say that were not in a position to say they would not have proprietary articles, because in some instances the higher the

class of business the more necessary was it that proprietary articles should be kept in stock. And it was necessary to have quack-medicines, too. There were mineral-water appliances, toilet-preparations—things which their customers insisted upon having, and a great many insisted upon having them at a price that did not pay. He thought it was much more creditable to try and get a fair remuneration for the articles they sold than to go along on a suicidal way by cutting, or charging prices which were higher than those at which the customers could obtain them elsewhere. Referring to Mr. Henry's remarks, he said they might argue that, because they could go to a shop and buy proprietary articles upon their list at less than the usual prices, that the Association was useless or failed. They might as well argue that because there was a certain number of vicious people in Edinburgh the police should be done away with. No system would be absolutely perfect, but they did contend that the system adopted by the Association was as perfect as it was possible to be, and they in Edinburgh had been able to verify that so far as their own people were concerned. In London they had, perhaps, men who were more actively disposed in trying to do business, and they did go a great length. But he had sent to parties who advertised stocks of articles at cutting prices, and in the great majority of cases he was told they were sorry they were sold out—that they would have more tomorrow. And they had instances of men in the long run making a compromise with the proprietor—perhaps not through the Association, but with the proprietor—and undertaking to sell the goods at the correct prices. As to the general knowledge of chemists as to what constituted a breaking of the Acts, he said he could put circumstances before them, and no one in the room could say whether it was an infringement of the Apothecaries Act or not. Certainly he found that the solicitors had great difficulty in saying how far the Act went. If they took the Dentists Act, so difficult was it there to decide how far a chemist might go that there was already a fund apart from his Association being got up to take the first test case that could possibly be taken in order to decide to what extent a chemist could say he extracted teeth. He was sorry that it should be suggested that because a chemist would be indemnified up to 500% in case of accident therefore he would be less careful in regard to the lives of people with whom he dealt. He did not think for a moment there was any chemist who would risk damage to his business through accident. The loss of reputation consequent on such an accident would be infinitely greater than any monetary loss he could be put to, and they must remember that as chemists they were not only liable themselves, but they were at the mercy of their assistants, and however careful a man might be, he could never be certain that all his people were equally careful. The subscription to the Association of 10s. 6d. per shop covered any accident or mistake that occurred in that shop. In answer to the question of the Chairman, he said they had close on 900 members, and over 1,000% reserve. It would be part of the duty of the Association to arrange for a local solicitor to act along with the London solicitor in dealing with any cases that might crop up, for although they might be able to do without local solicitors in English towns they would not be able to do that in Scotland. To show how easy it was for chemists to come within the chance of prosecution under the Food and Drugs Act he said they sent to seventeen shops for quantities of spirits of nitre, and ten out of the seventeen samples were below proof. It was almost impossible to keep spirits of nitre in the shop for sale and keep it up to standard.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Glyn-Jones for his statement. This was all the business.

GRADES OF DIFFERENCE.—Innocent: "Wonder how Mortar is getting on nowadays?" Smarty: "Getting along finely. It was only two years ago he started out as an apothecary. He is already a druggist, and if his luck holds out he will be a pharmacist before the end of another twelvemonth." Innocent: "But what difference will that make?" Smarty: "A big difference." An apothecary oftentimes has to sell things at only 50 per cent. above cost, and a druggist never takes less than 100 per cent., but to a pharmacist there is no limit."

The Pharmaceutical Aviary.



The Bird of Bloomsbury.

This is the little bird that sits up aloft o'er the Bloomsbury portal—*Secretarius Broomridgei*, var. *filius*, to be strictly correct. The aviartist has had great trouble in catching it, because its General Purposes are averse to frivolity, publicity, and anything else which is not strictly in accordance with the Charter and Bye-laws (with an e). Is shown on its natural roost, where it warbles—

Sing a song of guineas,
A pocketful of fees;
One-and-twenty Councillors,
And every one to please!
When they come to 17
They all begin to speak;
Oh! who dares say that they are
An office-governed *clique*?

Atkins was in his grandest form,
Recounting what we'd done—
"The citadel surrender not,
No battle's lost till won."
They made a Bill to regulate
The business of the Co.'s—
Down came the Blackburns
And squashed it with "Noes."

The song has a plaintive air, in consonance with the bird's character of acting in that capacity against solitary sparrows who infringe the Act.

"Oh! mine in snows and summer heats,
These good old Tory brick-built streets!
My eye is pleased with all it meets
In Bloomsbury."

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE INFAMOUS-CONDUCT SECTION of the Medical Act is sometimes quoted as a precedent why power similar to that delegated to the General Medical Council should also be entrusted to the Pharmaceutical Council. This judicial authority is discussed with much ability by Mr. Brudenell Carter in an interesting article on medical ethics which appears in the current number of the *International Journal of Ethics*. The statute authorises the Medical Council to remove from the register the names of persons convicted of felony or misdemeanour in England or Ireland, or of crime or of an offence in Scotland, or "found by the Council after due inquiry to have been guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect." This clause, Mr. Carter says, was accepted by Parliament without any debate, but he argues strongly against the contention that it was ever intended to give the Council power, as has been claimed, "to regulate and control the relations of the profession to the public or of one member to another." Nowhere in English law, he says, is machinery provided for regulating the internal economy of a profession, and the nature of the power given is evidenced, he thinks, by its association with felony, and also by the circumstance that the Council has no power to graduate the penalties. The Council has of late years assumed power to restore names to the register after having removed them—that is, of awarding temporary suspension of registration-rights; but Mr. Carter is very doubtful whether such power exists, and so apparently is the Council, for it is now promoting a Bill in which it asks for the power which it has been exercising. Mr. Carter thinks the Council's power under this section has only been tolerated because it has been exercised with the utmost discretion in the public interest, and he is confident the Council will not accede to the demand of the trade-union section of the profession, which aims to have underselling and touting generally declared to be infamous conduct in a professional respect.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD'S ridiculous statistics in reference to the Sale of Food and Drugs Act are surely reduced to an absurdity in their report this year. Nobody, not even a Whitehall official, can seriously imagine that the drugs sold in 1899 were worse than those sold in 1898 to the extent indicated by the respective percentages solemnly published by the Board of 17·8 as compared with 11·9. But if the figures do not mean this they are simply senseless. Of course the fact is that there is no true basis of comparison between the samples taken in various places, by different people, from all sorts of motives, and in the most irregular proportions. If the L.G.B. would only humble itself to refer the reports received from analysts to experts in the various trades concerned, valuable comments might be secured, and the object of the statute would be promoted. The present report is the work of a machine, and so far as it is anything it is misleading.

THE DISPUTE between Mr. A. H. Allen and Dr. Attfield is hardly worthy of those gentlemen. It is inconceivable that either of them misunderstands the other's position, and both have attained eminence enough not to need the aid of a mere dialectical victory. Dr. Attfield's loyalty to the Pharmacopœia is beyond all question. To him we owe the disestablishment of milk of sulphur and the old sweet spirit of nitre, and he effected this iconoclasm with a high hand through his Pharmacopœia. But surely he may believe in

the generally sacred character of his book, and yet declare, as every sane man must, that it is not to be taken as a standard for every drug named between its covers. Mr. Allen, too, on several occasions in recent years has shown that he can appreciate the position of the retail pharmacist. The allusion in his Sheffield speech to quinine wine helped very considerably to protect an innocent defendant from an unjust conviction within a week of its utterance. If Dr. Attfield and Mr. Allen could be compelled to spend an hour in each other's company and tick off the few things in the index of the B.P. which that work cannot be expected to be an authority for, the whole controversy would be settled, and puzzled magistrates would often be preserved from decisions which bring the Act into disrepute.

* * * *

THE POISONS BILL framed by "The Traders in Poisons and Poisonous Compounds for Technical or Trade-purposes Protection Society" scarcely deserves the attention given it by the Chemical Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, who have held two meetings to discuss it. Parliament is no more likely to sanction the proposal than it is to re-establish the religion of the Druids. I notice that Mr. Umney and others find it necessary to apologise for the principle of restricting the sale of poisons to qualified vendors as a justifiable departure from a free-trade policy; and notoriously our grocery friends, who will never be happy till they can deal in arsenic and oxalic acid, are very solemn in their protest against this infringement of the sacred tenet. For my part I cannot see how free-trade comes into the discussion at all. The trade in poisons is open to the world. The law requires only that those desiring to embark in it shall fulfil certain conditions. This is no more an interference with free-trade than are the conditions surrounding the sale of petroleum, gunpowder, or patent medicines.

* * * *

THE FEARFUL SACRIFICE OF LIFE resulting from the fire at a wholesale-drug warehouse in New York is not unlikely to bring about the compulsory dispersal of the wholesale druggists and manufacturing chemists from that city. This, at least, is the character of some serious suggestions in the American press. A similar result, but not, it may be hoped, accelerated by any such catastrophe, is one of the tasks which the men of the twentieth century will have to carry out in London and other large cities. The overcrowding problem is becoming more urgent every year, and one way of solving it will be found in the removal of all factories, and subsequently, warehouses, to peaceful country spots near railways or on the banks of canals. Telephones and telegraphs reduce the inconvenience of such removals to a minimum, and the rural districts, and the cities will equally benefit by such changes. The movement countrywards has already made considerable progress, and there are notable instances of it in the medicine trade.

* * * *

THE MYSTERY OF FAHRENHEIT'S SCALE, the interest in which Sir Samuel Wilks has lately revived, is a fascinating problem, and now is the time for anyone with a theory to disclose it. A particularly ingenious one is set forth by Mr. Gilbert S. Ram, electrical engineer, of Coventry, in the *British Medical Journal*. Mr. Ram pictures Fahrenheit with his four fixed temperatures, the boiling-point of water, the blood heat, the melting-point of ice, and the utmost cold he could produce. This last he called zero. But how should he indicate the distances between that point and the others? What more natural than that he should base his scale on the proportionate expansions of the mercury in his thermometer? Mr. Ram notes that every degree of the scale corresponds very nearly with the expansion of mercury by one-tenthousandth of its own volume, and this he supposes was the basis on which Fahrenheit calculated his degrees. The patness of the theory reminds one a little of the ingenuity with which the older theologians used to fit the figure 666 to their particular historic aversions, but it must be admitted to be a very happy guess. It at least gives us a scientific reason for clinging to the familiar but curiously awkward scale which prevails in English-speaking countries only.

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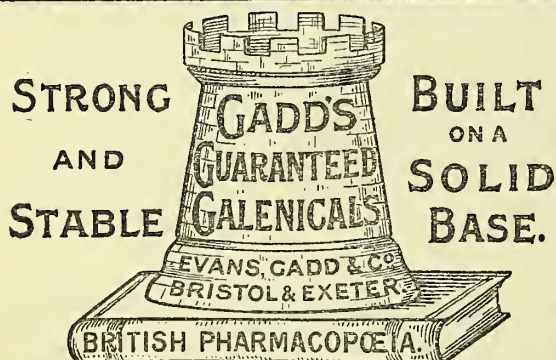
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Editorial Comments.

Quinine-wine.

THE Highgate case under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, which was fully reported last week, is an excellent example of the unforeseen. The substitution of quinine hydrochloride for quinine sulphate in the preparation of quinine-wine was universally considered to be a move in the right direction. As a rule it is not advisable to alter the formulae of long-standing remedies, and it could only be for the best of reasons that quinine-wine, which had been made with sulphate of quinine since Dr. G. F. Collier introduced it more than fifty years ago, was changed. Dr. Collier's formula for it was as follows:—

Quinine sulphate	24 gr.
Lemon-juice (or solution of citric acid, 3½ oz. to the pint)	3 dr.
Orange wine	A wine quart.

Mix.

The change from quinine sulphate to quinine hydrochloride was made on the assumption that the muddiness of the old quinine-wine was due, in part at least, to the precipitation of calcium sulphate by interaction of quinine sulphate and alkaline citrate, derived from the oranges, or free citric acid. The part played in the precipitation by tannin, which exists in wines that have been stored in oak casks, had not been taken into consideration by the Pharmacopœia authorities, although on at least one occasion, some years ago (*C. & D.*, December 7, 1895, page 832), a grocery firm, at Keighley, was charged with selling quinine-wine containing ¾ gr. of quinine salt per ounce, when the chemist who supplied it explained to the Bench that in following the Pharmacopœia process a certain amount of quinine tannate is formed, pre-

precipitated, and lost on filtration. The Highgate case, therefore, presented no novel feature of defence, except that the Pharmacopœia conditions have been altered since 1895, and the solicitor so utilised the pharmaceutical facts with which he was primed as to break down the case for the prosecution without calling upon the defence at all. The facts were, substantially, that while the B.P. of 1885 required that quinine-wine should contain 1 gr. of sulphate of quinine in each fluid ounce (although, as a matter of fact, it never did) the 1898 Pharmacopœia gives no such requirement, but simply prescribes that the wine shall be made by dissolving 20 gr. of quinine hydrochloride in 1 pint of orange-wine, then set aside, and filtered if necessary. The directions are sufficiently wide to enable any manufacturer of the wine to keep it long enough before filtration to ensure that after it is filtered it will not deposit further. In THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of October 15, 1898, page 648, a correspondent stated that he had not been able to obtain the wine in a bright condition; although it may be filtered bright, after a few days it again begins to deposit, a slight change of temperature sufficing to bring this about. It was pointed out later by Alcock that the change referred to is possibly due to quinine citrate. This salt is soluble in the proportion of about 1 gr. in 2 fl. oz. of water, so that the weakly alcoholic and saccharine solution known as orange-wine cannot keep much more than $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of quinine citrate in solution, supposing that the whole of the quinine hydrochloride reacts with the natural acid and salts of the orange to form quinine citrate. That is the contingency which the editor of the Pharmacopœia, in his "Digest of Researches and Criticisms," suggested should be investigated further, especially with the view to determining whether the precipitation takes place equally at all seasons of the year. The Highgate case was an admirable example of what a solicitor can do in the nature of a defence, for although the theory which he successfully advanced was that quinine in the wine is precipitated as tannate, his pharmacopœial references were about quinine citrate. Tannin, we may point out, is not necessarily a constituent of orange-wine. Wine can be made by "the fermentation of a saccharine solution to which fresh bitter orange-peel has been added" without containing tannin, as that constituent is derived from the oak casks in which it is stored. The wine is usually made by pouring a boiling syrup upon orange-rind, adding the juice of the fruit, and fermenting when the temperature is lowered sufficiently; then it is fortified with brandy, and racked for several months. The racking is done in oak casks, so that the longer the racking the more tannin is found in the wine. A substance analogous to tannin has been found in the peel, but in extremely minute amount. It is natural to suppose that if the orange-wine were made in vessels which do not contain tannin, we would obtain a product free from the objectionable constituent; but we have to deal with conditions as we find them, and, as the defence in the Highgate case clearly showed, the best—that is the dearest or most matured—commercial orange-wines are richer in tannin than those that have been recently prepared.

The chief interest of the whole matter is that the practical pharmacists who have been working for many years past upon the medicinal wines of the Pharmacopœia, have paid too little attention to the effect of tannin as the cause of the deterioration in medicinal properties of the wines. In this connection we may quote a passage from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":—

So far as the manufacture of these wines is concerned, the chief point to note is that port and sherry wines, which are in a majority of cases used for making them, contain free tannic acid, and as tannin precipitates many active principles it is desirable to avoid it or get rid of it. In the case of sherry the only plan is to de-

tannate the wine, which is done by macerating 2 oz. of finely-cut gelatin in a gallon of the wine for fourteen days, shaking daily, and at the end of the period filtering. Another way of making it is to dissolve 1 dr. of white gelatin in 10 dr. of water, and add to a gallon of sherry. Set aside for a week, and filter. The objection to this method is that some of the gelatin remains in solution.

It is fifteen years since Mr. T. Maben, in a paper printed in the *C. & D.*, pointed out the need for detannated wines, and the B.P.C. adopted his formula. In the case of quinine-wine it is evident detannated wine should be used, for from 8 to 11 per cent. of anhydrous quinine, in the form principally of tannate, is precipitated within a few days of its preparation, and precipitation goes on for a good while. In the case of ipecacuanha wine the Pharmacopœia makes no final test of its alkaloidal strength, but the index states that it contains 5 minims of liquid extract of ipecacuanha in 100 minims—and from this an analyst might fairly infer that the wine should contain the whole of the alkaloids of the liquid extract. But sherry contains tannin, and as this combines with the ipecacuanha alkaloids, which as tannates are practically insoluble in the menstruum (up to a certain point), part of the deposit formed in ipecacuanha wine may consist of the tannates of the alkaloids. The risk is less in this case, because the proportion of alkaloid to solvent is as 1 to 4,000. Nevertheless the precipitation deserves attention. The next edition of the B.P. will, doubtless, make some provision for overcoming these difficulties. In the meantime we see no reason why pharmacists should not detannate the wines that they employ, for the Pharmacopœia does not require the wines to give a reaction for tannin, and all evidence seems to point to the fact that when treated with gelatin nothing else than tannin is removed.

Cracked and Chapped Heels.

WITH the advent of autumn rains and consequent mud, a variety of equine troubles return, or commence in animals not previously affected. Cracked heels are to be met with all the year round and, curiously enough, those caused by summer dust are often the most intractable. To understand the cause of cracked or chapped heels—they may be chapped without being cracked—the structure of the animal's foot and the parts immediately above it should be borne in mind. (Compare "Veterinary Counter-practice," edit. iii., page 132). In the hollow of the heel, under the tuft of hair which grows on the back of the fetlock-joint, is a comparatively hairless and smooth portion of skin, which in health imparts to the finger a soft and unctuous feeling, due to the secretion of a sebaceous material of the consistence of lanoline (at the temperature of the body), and having some of its emollient properties so long as the glands which secrete it are unimpaired. It is Nature's provision against friction in a part of the leg where the skin must of necessity be often doubled upon itself in the flexion of the limb, and, under normal conditions, answers the purpose of a lubricant admirably. Hence we rarely find a chapped or cracked heel in a young horse at grass, no matter how wet the weather or soft the pasture. But the mud upon our streets, and even upon country roads, is a more or less irritating compound of oxidised iron from wheel-tyres and shoes, and is composed of comminuted refuse of every sort in our towns. The urine and feces of animals, mixed with flint or granite, act as an irritant to horse's heels when wet and to human respiratory organs when powdered by dry winds.

The horse whose heels are wet with mud and alternately dry with the evaporation caused by his own warmth, is liable to get these sebaceous glands inflamed; then, instead of pouring out a lubricant, they discharge an acrid material which leads to ulceration or cracks that do not heal. A

simple chap with a rose-tinted inflamed area precedes the crack, and is easily observable in a white-heeled horse (white legs are notoriously more prone to the malady), but in the case of a dark and hairy leg no premonitory symptoms are detected as a rule, and acute lameness when taken out of the stable in the morning is the first indication of anything being amiss. The owner or groom sometimes fails to locate the trouble and a veterinary surgeon is sent for, but more often the counter prescriber will be applied to for advice and medicine.

If the case is recent, as we have here supposed, he will advise a preliminary poultice composed of equal parts of bran and crushed linseed, to which may be added with advantage $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. of chinisol in 1 oz. of glycerin. Any other antiseptic may be employed, but the chinisol glyproved most effectual. In the case of gross draught horses with sluggish circulation and a predisposition to congestion of the extremities, it may be desirable to advise bran-mashes and an aloetic ball of 5 to 7 dr. during the enforced idleness necessitated by the lameness. Aloes, we may remind our readers, has what is known as a derivative effect upon the feet and legs, carrying off dropsical swellings and those soft enlargements which our forefathers were wont to describe as "humours." They somehow blundered upon the remedies without much knowledge of pathology, and acquired an honest reputation for treatment.

Through the softening influence of the poultice, the acute lameness quickly passes off and with exercise wholly disappears, until the animal has again rested and permitted a scab to form, or matter to accumulate and arrest the flow of thin watery fluid which exudes from an open heel. It is now time to apply an astringent, and there is much room for judgment in the selection of one. A recent crack will need but the mildest, such as 1 part of alum. ust. to 4 or 5 parts of zinci oxid. dusted over the wound. It is not desirable to heal it up at once, as the lips of the ulcer are ever ready to form a rapid but soft union, which breaks away as soon as tension is put upon the skin in extending the limb backwards. If the adjacent unbroken skin can be made soft by an ointment such as ung. adipis lanæ a certain amount of stretching of the common integument is permitted and the drag or strain upon the recently united ulcer minimised. Among stablemen accustomed to treat minor ailments themselves, cupri sulph. is very popular, as its effects are immediate, the crack probably closing in one day or night, but for the reason given above such treatment should be discouraged in all recent or first cases. For the chronic, or those which reopen in unfavourable weather, caustic astringents even more active than cupri sulph. may have to be employed, and these, whether argent. nit., hyd. perchlor. or zinci chlor. should only be applied to the margins of the ulcer, and should not be put into the hands of anyone who cannot be trusted to exercise great care not to injure the whole skin surrounding the crack.

Some animals of lethargic temperament and with indolent lymphatic vessels would seem to have need almost of issue from some part of the leg, and an open ulcer at this situation is the alternative of mallenders or sallenders, or worse still, laminitis, and such horses need the habitual assistance of diuretic and alterative medicines.

We would not, of course, advocate unnecessary drugging, or fall into line with those veterinary agnostics who seem to think their duty is done in looking on and carefully filling in a clinical note-book. We can only arrive at a proper appreciation of our patients' needs by bearing in mind the artificial habits of life we impose on them, and then their individual idiosyncrasies. The mash and diuretic ball, or Saturday-night powders, may be described as unnatural or

artificial; but so also is it unnatural and artificial for a horse to be tied to the manger when not tied to the shafts, and to occupy a stall in which there is not space enough to turn round, or the necessary quiet to enable him to lie down and give the vessels an opportunity of returning their contents to the heart, without having to ascend four perpendicular pillars, with gravity always against them.

NO BILL.

As far as we can gather from correspondence and reports of public utterances throughout the country, pharmacists confidently expected that the Pharmaceutical Council would this week produce its bill to amend the Pharmacy Bill indeed, at the moment of writing, there comes to us a notice of a meeting to be held at Dewsbury on Monday, to discuss the "Council's new draft Pharmacy Bill." We understand that the Bill is ready and printed. It was intended to make it public at this week's meeting, but something has transpired to delay it another month. What it is we are not in a position to say, but these little delays indicate a spasmodic arrangement of business which is not creditable to a body with sixty years' experience to draw upon. This is the second time that the Bill has been kept back for some trifling excuse, which may, of course, be vital to the measure, but when trifles become so serious as that they are diagnostic of some malady in the organism.

THE VOLATILE SPIRIT.

A sweet nitre case of great interest to our subscribers was heard at Melton Mowbray this week, which once more brought into prominence the absolute necessity of chemists and druggists who are called upon to supply spirit of nitrous ether for analysis should see that the sample is divided in such a condition as to preserve its properties. In the present case, owing to imperfect sampling and the choice of very inferior corks, a specimen which was proved to be within the B.P. limits at the time of the sale had, after a period of seventeen days, lost so much as to encourage the authorities to summon the seller. Happily, the defence was so well placed before the Bench that the Magistrates were obliged to dismiss the summons. It should be observed that in all these cases a copy of the summons must be supplied within a period of twenty-eight days of the sale, and with it and at the same time a copy of the analyst's certificate; and pharmacists will do well to see that these regulations are rigidly complied with.

SAMPLING IN TRANSIT.

A rather interesting case is reported in our "Legal" columns this week in regard to the sale of pepper stated to contain about one-third of its weight of Indian corn. A question arose as to whether a copy of the analyst's certificate should have been served with the summons. The fact that no copy was served should suffice to dismiss the case; but the more interesting point is the fact that the provisions of Section 14 of the 1899 Act have been applied to pepper for the first time. These provisions were previously applicable only to milk under the 1879 Act, and enabled the officer to take samples in course of delivery to the purchaser or consignee. The 1899 Act, in extending the provisions to other foods than milk (not to drugs), has specially stipulated that no samples should be taken under the section except upon the request or with the consent of the purchaser or consignee. In the present case the purchaser, being doubtful as to the quality of the pepper, invited an officer to take a sample. One peculiarity of proceedings is that the sample taken under these special conditions need not be divided into three parts, but Sub-section 2 of Section 19 (1899) requires a copy of any analyst's certificate obtained on behalf of the prosecutor to be served with the summons in any prosecution under the Acts. It will be interesting to see what is the upshot of the action.

Marriages.

FORCER-WILLIAMS—BARKER.—On October 30, at St. Mary's Parish Church, Mold, by the Rev. J. P. Poole Hughes, assisted by the Revs. Herbert Evans and Evan Jones, and the Rev. J. George (Vicar of Bistre), Dr. Thomas Forcer-Williams, of Cefn-y-Bedd, near Wrexham, to Cassie, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Barker, chemist and druggist, and Mrs. Barker, 22 High Street, Mold.

MURRAY—MACALISTER.—On October 31, at St. John's Parish Church, Monksbor, Chelmsford, by the Rev. F. Sear, M.A., Mr. Blomfield Murray, L.P.S.I., 139 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, eldest son of the late George J. Murray, Ballinacuna, Limerick, to Isabella, youngest daughter of Mr. Macalister, late of Hamstown, Dundalk.

Deaths.

DAWSON.—At New York, on October 18, suddenly, Mr. James Dawson, chemist and druggist, formerly of Edinburgh and Bradford (for many years with Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co.).

GREEN.—On October 27, at Swindon, Mr. John Green, chemist and druggist. Aged 66 years. The deceased gentleman was born at Castleton, Dorset, and was articled to Dr. Highmore, a local practitioner. He settled in Swindon in 1869 immediately after passing the modified examination, and up to two years ago successfully carried on the business. For the greater part of his thirty years' residence in the town he was a member of the governing authority of Old Swindon, and had been Chairman of the Urban District Council since March, 1899. He was a diligent worker on behalf of other local bodies, a Past Master in Freemasonry, and an M.E.Z. of Archmasonry. Mr. Green leaves a second wife and two sons, who are chemists and druggists.

MELROSE.—On November 2, Mr. Walter Melrose, of 72 Bootbam, York (late of Messrs. Raimes & Co., Edinburgh and York). Aged 77.

MOSCROP.—The death took place on October 22 in the South of France of Mr. Edward Henry Moscrop, pharmaceutical chemist, at the advanced age of 81. The deceased gentleman formerly carried on business successfully as a chemist at the premises in High Street, Godalming, now occupied by Mr. J. H. Mather. He retired from the drug-trade in 1849, and bought the business of the Wenbam Lake Ice Company in the Strand, from which he retired with an ample fortune in 1868, but the greater part of that was subsequently lost, owing to unfortunate investments. Mr. Moscrop was one of the six surviving founders, and a life member, of the Pharmaceutical Society, and a donor of 100*l.* to the Benevolent Fund.

SQUIBB.—At Brooklyn, N.Y., on October 25, Dr. Edward R. Squibb. Aged 81. Dr. Squibb was of Quaker parentage, and was born in Wilmington, Del., on July 4, 1819. After graduating from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, he was appointed a surgeon in the United States navy, and subsequently had charge of the Naval Hospital at Brooklyn. While he was there the civil war broke out, and his skill was utilised by the Government in the preparation of pharmaceutical supplies. Later he resigned and started a private laboratory in Brooklyn. Fifteen years ago he retired from active business, but under his counsel his sons, Dr. Edward H. and Charles F. Squibb, continued the laboratory. Few men have done more for pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmaceutical processes than he, and the appended appreciation is eloquent of the esteem in which he was held by his fellow-countrymen. Our last letter from Dr. Squibb a few months ago was one of regret that he was unable to send us his photograph, and no portrait of him is available.

In response to the editor's request to contribute a brief appreciation of the services rendered to pharmaceutical and chemical science by Dr. E. R. Squibb, whose death is here announced, the writer is glad to avail himself of this sad privilege and of the

opportunity which it affords of rendering to the memory of the departed his personal tribute of homage and esteem.

For fully half a century Dr. Squibb's name has been not only one of the most prominent in the pharmaceutical and medical circles of America, but has been even more widely honoured and revered; for there were not a few in foreign lands who, even when not having had the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, were impressed by the force and character of his writings, and through the influence of his noble and sterling qualities of heart and mind were led to an appreciation which in some instances formed a bond of enduring and cherished friendship.

Although through his writings and the products of his manufacture the name of Dr. Squibb has been familiar to me for three decades, it was only in more recent years that circumstances permitted me to enjoy a more intimate personal acquaintance and friendship. When I saw him for the first time on the occasion of the funeral of his friend, Professor William Procter, jr., of Philadelphia, in February, 1874, he seemed already quite advanced in years, but he was still spared for over a quarter of a century, in which to continue uninterruptedly and with unimpaired zeal the work to which his life was so successfully devoted.

Dr. Squibb's investigations were of a pre-eminently practical or technical character, and were invariably distinguished by their thoroughness and accuracy. He became a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1858, about five years after its organisation, and for twenty years thereafter he contributed regularly many valuable papers to that body, in 1871 no fewer than eight appearing under his name in its Proceedings. The last paper contributed by him to that association seems to have been in 1878, when he published the results of an extended study of the process of re-percolation as applied to the manufacture of fluid extracts. In former years he also contributed a number of papers to the *American Journal of Pharmacy*, and apparently his last publication was a paper in that journal in July of the present year, entitled: "On Acetic Acid as a substitute for Ethyl Alcohol in extracting the vegetable principles of some official drugs." In addition to these, however, Dr. Squibb was also a frequent contributor to medical and chemical periodicals, but since 1882 his observations and investigations have been recorded for the most part in an independent publication entitled: "An Ephemeris of Materia Medica, Pharmacy, Therapeutics, and Collateral Information." The pamphlets issued under this title have been distributed gratuitously at irregular intervals, and have already become extended to the sixth volume, comprising up to the present 2,551 pages. In them are reflected the broad knowledge, ripe experience, and the rare technical skill and ingenuity of the author, who in later years was materially assisted by his two sons in the work.

It would not be practicable at this time for the writer of these lines to attempt to present a detailed account of the inestimable service which has been rendered both to pharmacy and to chemical technology by Dr. Squibb, nor to more than indicate the great influence which he exerted in elevating the standards of crude drugs and the purity of medicinal chemicals, especially in the markets of the United States. His unceasing and successful efforts in that direction have been duly recognised in a biographical sketch by his friend, Dr. Fred. Hoffmann, in the *Pharmaceutische Rundschau*, New York, December, 1892, pages 275-278.

In the summer of 1894, Dr. Squibb was able to realise the pleasure of an extended visit from the lamented Professor Flückiger, the anticipation of which he had cherished for many years. That an attachment of such long duration should thus have been consummated by the meeting of the two friends on American shores, and that in view of the longer separation which was destined so soon to occur (for Professor Flückiger died a few months afterwards), they were permitted the enjoyment of each other's companionship amid the comforts of one of the most delightful and hospitable of homes, or in short journeys to places of interest, must now be a source of gratification to those who mourn their loss.

A little more than two years ago it was the writer's privilege to spend a most pleasant hour with Dr. Squibb in his private laboratory at Brooklyn, N.Y. Although then nearly 80 years of age, and having but recently suffered the amputation of one hand in consequence of severe injuries inflicted by an ether-explosion some forty years previously, he was still in his usual cheerful mood, and manifested the most lively interest in everything pertaining to scientific progress. This great and good man has now passed away, full of years and honours, and, although he will be greatly missed, there will remain an imperishable record of a noble life, conspicuous alike for unswerving integrity, kindness of disposition, and untiring industry.

In the long and distinguished career of Dr. Squibb, the close of which will be so widely deplored, one may find the truest exemplification of Longfellow's lines:—

"The heights of great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upwards in the night."

F. B. POWER.

WELLS.—On November 4, at his residence, 141 Rathgar Road, Mr. William Frederick Wells, chemist and druggist, of 52 Upper Sackville Street, Dublin. Aged 85. The late Mr. Wells (father of the energetic ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland) was known as the father of the drug-trade in Dublin. Many eminent Irish pharmacists (including the late Mr. R. J. Downes) were trained in pharmacy by Mr. Wells, who was a much-respected personality in the city. He had been ailing for some time and his precarious condition was the cause, we believe, of his son's absence from the B.P.C. meeting in London this year. The funeral, which was well attended, took place on November 6 at Mount Jerome Cemetery.

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. M. W. ADLER, chemist, 30 Preston Street, Brighton, has disposed of his business to Mr. Watkins.

MR. PHILIP HAWKINS, chemist and druggist, has commenced business in Quay Road, Bridlington, Yorks.

MR. J. HICKS, chemist and druggist, has bought the business of Mr. Carr, High Street, Weston-super-Mare.

J. H. READ (LIMITED), store chemists, have recently altered and enlarged their premises at 90 Victoria Street, S.W.

MR. R. T. JENNINGS, pharmaceutical chemist, has acquired the business of Mr. C. J. Fryer, 410 Wandsworth Road, S.W.

PARKE'S DRUG COMPANY has taken over the business of Mr. F. Glanville, chemist and druggist, at 317 Fulham Road, S.W.

MR. H. BRIDGMAN, pharmaceutical chemist, has bought the branch business of Messrs. Bond, Smith Brothers, Ashwell.

MESSRS. HEADLAND & Co, chemists, have transferred their branch business from 32 to more commodious premises at 23 Duke Street, Brighton.

MR. J. WILLIAMS, 12 Pembridge Road, Notting Hill Gate W., has sold his business to Mr. T. H. Dennis, chemist and druggist, formerly of Nottingham.

MR. G. J. KNIGHT (Windle & Co.), 452 Edgware Road, W., has purchased the chemist's business of Mr. A. Rose, at 441 Edgware Road, nearly opposite his own.

THE premises in High Street, Smethwell, for many years occupied by Mr. Richard J. Chapman, chemist and druggist, have been acquired by the Central Drug Company.

THE PARTNERSHIP between Messrs. Wyborn & Fugler, chemists, Brighton, has been dissolved, and Mr. Augustus Fugler will in future carry on the business at 13 Lewes Road under his own name.

MR. GEORGE D. PATERSON, pharmaceutical chemist, has purchased the old-established business, 16 Pow Street, Workington, which has been carried on by Mr. William Carruthers, who is retiring, for about forty years.

MESSRS JEEVES & SON, chemists, 88 and 89 St. George's Road, Brighton, have sold their branch business at 10 Grantham Road, Brighton, to Mr. Clement Gray, chemist and druggist, their late manager.

MR. E. J. GREEN'S pharmacy at 21 High Street, Rochester, is still for sale. We stated last week that Mr. Sewell had purchased it, but both these gentlemen ask us to contradict the statement, the negotiations not having gone so far.

THE old-established business of retail chemists carried on under the name of Johann Christian Reinhardt & Sons, at 76 Brigate, Leeds, was closed on Thursday, November 1, and had a placard stating that, in consequence of the stock, fixtures, and premises having been disposed of by private contract, the shop was closed to allow the stock to be arranged for a sale which will take place in a few days at a great reduction.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

LANG v. LAMPLOUGH—VOLENITE (LIMITED).

MR. JUSTICE MATHEW, sitting to try commercial causes in the Queen's Bench Division on Monday, gave judgment in this case, the earlier stage of which was heard last week and reported in the *C. & D.* It was an action to recover 10,000*l.* for materials supplied. Defendant said these were supplied to the Volenite Company, of which he was chemist, and not to him personally. His Lordship, in the course of his judgment, said it appeared that the Volenite Company was never informed of what had been done, and as to Mr. Lamplough having forwarded the plaintiff's contract-notes to the company, he said he was constrained to come to the conclusion that the contract-notes were not sent, and that no information whatever was given to the Volenite Company as to the transactions. Defendant said he made the purchases from Mr. Lang in good faith and on behalf of the Volenite Company, but why he made them he could not imagine. He was satisfied that he did not act as the Volenite Company's agent, and he gave judgment, therefore, for the Volenite Company on that part of the case, with costs. As to the action between Mr. Lang and Mr. Lamplough, counsel must consult together and mention the matter to him again.

ACTION AGAINST KINGSTOWN CHEMISTS.

IN the Dublin Nisi Prius Court on November 5, the case of *John Good v. Hayes, Corynham & Robinson (Limited)* was heard before Lord Chief Baron Palles and a City special jury. The plaintiff, who is a building contractor, sought to recover 365*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, balance of account which he claimed to be due to him for work and labour done, goods supplied, and money expended in connection with the rebuilding for the defendants, who are pharmaceutical chemists, of their premises, No. 112 Upper George's Street, Kingstown, under a contract dated April 30, 1898. The defendants lodged 365*l.* odd in court, and pleaded it was provided by Clause 8 of the contract that the work should be completed within six months from May 3, 1898; that if there should be failure of completion the plaintiff should pay 10*l.* for every week of delay, provided it should be certified by the architect that the work could have been reasonably completed within the said time; that the plaintiff did not complete the work until February 13, 1899; that the architect certified that the work could have been completed within the contract-time provided certain terra-cotta to be used in the building, and for the design of which the plaintiff was responsible, had been delivered in time; and there were similar pleas as to the non-completion of a shop within five months from May 3, 1898, and the defendants counterclaimed for 260*l.* The plaintiff replied to these statements, and, after some evidence had been adduced, the Lord Chief Baron ruled that, the defendants' claim not being for liquidated damages but for penalties, it was necessary, in order to enable the defendants to recover penalties, that they should have had from their architect a certificate that the works could have been completed within a reasonable time, but that the qualified certificate which their architect had given—namely, that they could have been completed within a reasonable time if the terra-cotta had been delivered—was not such a certificate as the contract required, and he must, therefore, direct a verdict for the plaintiff. The jury accordingly brought in a verdict for the amount of the plaintiff's claim.

GOODWIN v. THE IVORY SOAP COMPANY.

IN the Court of Appeal on October 7, before Lords Justices Rigby, Romer, and Vaughan Williams, Mr. Warnington, Q.C., mentioned the case of *Goodwin v. The Ivory Soap Company* and the *Proctor & Gamble Company*, which was down for hearing on an application by the plaintiff Goodwin for leave to adduce further evidence on the appeal. Without going into the merits of the case their Lordships decided that the better course would be that the motion for leave to adduce further evidence should come on with the appeal, and directed accordingly.

RESTRICTIVE AGREEMENTS.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Phillimore and a common jury, on November 7, Marshalls (Limited), manufacturing chemists, carrying on business at 27 Red Lion Square, sued Mr. S. J. Leek, formerly employed in their laboratory, and also as a traveller, to recover 200% penalty for breach of agreement not to compete with them in their business.

Defendant had formerly a business of his own in the same line as plaintiffs, and manufactured naphthaline and sal prunella preparations. In 1897 he entered the plaintiffs' employment, transferring to them his trade connection, and he sold to them for 40% the implements of his trade. A clause in the agreement then signed provided that after purchase was completed the defendant would not enter into business competition with Marshalls (Limited), either for himself, or as manager or assistant, under a penalty of 200%. The defendant's engagement terminated in March this year, and the plaintiffs stated that the defendant had, in conjunction with a Mr. G. A. Goddon, also formerly in their employ, set up a competing business to their's at 31 Caffyn Street, Blackfriars, and 76 Cannon Street, E.C., under the style of Goddens (Limited).

The defendant denied that he had entered into competition with the plaintiffs in the true meaning of the clause which, he said, ceased to operate after the termination of his employment as a servant of Marshalls (Limited). It was also said on his behalf that the covenant was in its terms unreasonably restrictive of trade, and being contrary to public policy was illegal, null and void.

In the course of the hearing it was held by the learned Judge that the words of the clause in question were not too vague, were not limited to the period of the defendant's service, that they were not limited to competition with such articles as defendant traded in when he sold his trade connection to the plaintiffs, but extended to any competition whatever with them in their business as manufacturing chemists, and that the clause was not void as a restraint of trade.

The jury found, in reply to questions, that defendant had entered into business competition with Marshalls (Limited), and that certain commission was due to him.

Mr. Justice Phillimore said that was a verdict for the plaintiffs for 200% on the breach of contract, and for the defendant on the counterclaim for 63%. Judgment accordingly would be for the plaintiffs for 137%.

County Court Cases.

AN ANALYST'S DIFFICULTIES.

JUDGE LUMLEY SMITH, Q.C., in the Westminster County Court on November 6, had before him the case of Pears v. Goodfellow on a judgment summons. Defendant, an analytical chemist, said he had now but little means. He was consulting-chemist to three companies, one of which he had his money invested in, all of which failed. He had now but 100% a year from a college. Plaintiff's clerk said defendant was an officer in the Essex Artillery, and was lecturer at the Grocers' Exhibition. Defendant said he had resigned his Volunteer commission, and the Grocers' Exhibition was honorary. He had several judgments against him. An order to pay 1% a month was made.

Pharmacy Act (Ireland).

IS AN ANALYST'S CERTIFICATE NECESSARY?

AT Tullamore, King's County, Petty Sessions, on Saturday, November 3, before Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, R.M., presiding, William Delaney, an assistant in the employment of Messrs. P. & H. Egan, merchants, Tullamore, was summoned at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland for having retailed and dispensed poison without being duly qualified by law to do so; and also for selling poison by retail without having same labelled with the name and address of the seller. Acting-Sergeant Lawlor deposed that he went to Messrs. Egan's premises, and was supplied with a quantity of corrosive sublimate, which he had transmitted to the analyst, Professor Tichborne, and then by the direction of the Pharmaceutical Council he took these proceedings. He submitted Professor Tichborne's certificate of analysis.

Mr. George Hoey, solicitor for Messrs. Egan & Sons, objected to the production of the certificate as evidence against the defendant. He admitted selling the poison, but only in very small quantities.

The Chairman said that the charge was a very serious one considering that the poison had been sold while no book or register had been kept by the seller.

Mr. Hoey said that a member of the firm, the late Mr. Patrick Egan, had undoubtedly the right to sell poison.

Acting-Sergeant Lawlor said that Mr. Patrick Egan had died in 1897.

On the application of Mr. Hoey the case was adjourned for a fortnight, on the point as to whether the production of the analyst's certificate was evidence against the defendant.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At the Sheffield Police Court on October 31, before Messrs Peel (presiding) and A. Wightman, Sarah Ann Newton, Bramall Lane, was summoned for selling 6 oz. of sweet spirit of nitre not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded, to the prejudice of the purchaser. Mr. W. E. Start (from the Town Clerk's office) prosecuted, and Mr. Alf. Hutley, solicitor, Leeds, defended.

J. B. Duro, an inspector for the Corporation, appointed for the purpose of carrying out the Food and Drugs Acts, proved the purchase. Witness was closely cross-examined by Mr. Hutley as to whether or not he had informed the defendant that the samples were for analysis. In further cross-examination witness admitted that he did not know the component parts of the drug, or that it was of a volatile nature. He also admitted that, although the purchase was taken from a stoppered bottle, the samples were put in ordinary corked bottles, without any seal or other device to prevent evaporation, and he considered the samples to be correctly taken, but he admitted discoloration on being shown the cork.

At this point the Chairman asked Mr. A. H. Allen, the city analyst, to give evidence as to whether the samples being corked instead of stoppered would make any difference. Mr. Allen stated that one was as good as the other, and would not make any appreciable difference. Mr. Allen was then called in support of his certificate, and stated that the result of his analysis was to show that the sample contained about five-sevenths of the minimum proportion of ethyl nitrite required by the B.P. In cross-examination by Mr. Hutley witness agreed that it was a difficult article to keep up to standard owing to its volatile nature, and required regular attention. He did not think that any change could take place in the constitution of the article before it was analysed after purchase. Although the purchase was on September 17 and his certificate dated September 27, the analysis would take place prior to that date, as all the certificates were made together. In the present case he thought that the deficiency, which was about 30 per cent., was probably due to natural degeneration, and if kept exposed in a shop window, would, in course of time, lose all the nitrous ether.

The Chairman inquired of Mr. Allen if he thought the article had been tampered with. Mr. Allen replied that he did not for a moment think so.

The Bench, without going further into the case, held that there had been no intent to defraud, and they dismissed the case.

At the Melton Mowbray Petty Sessions on Tuesday, November 6, Mr. C. F. Routen, grocer, Twyford, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which Dr. Bernard Dyer, the analyst, reported to "contain not more than 1½ per cent. of ethyl nitrite, and was therefore deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent, at least, of ½ per cent." After some formal evidence the Magistrates decided to hear a second case of a similar character.

Robert Whiteley Brownlow, chemist and druggist, was then called upon in respect to the sale of sweet spirit of nitre which contained only 1½ per cent. of ethyl nitrite.

P.C. Hall spoke of going into Mr. Brownlow's shop and purchasing 1s. worth of the spirit, which he took to the door and handed over to Supt. Mantle.

Defendant: Was it a dry or a wet bottle you brought?

Witness: It was a wet one.

Defendant: Had it contained anything previously?

Witness: Yes; sweet spirit of nitre.

Supt. Mantle stated that he divided the compound into three parts in the presence of Mr. Brownlow, and sealed it up in three separate bottles. One he kept, another he handed over to defendant, and the third he sent to Dr. Dyer for analysis. The certificate was handed in.

In reply to defendant, witness said as far as he could say it was an 8-oz. bottle which he sent for the sweet nitre. The corks were purchased from Boots' Cash Stores. He did not allow much time to elapse before he corked up and sealed the bottles. As far as he knew the sample was at present in as good a condition as the day it was bought.

Defendant produced the sealed bottle handed to him by Supt. Mantle, and showed by a mark he made at the time that the liquid had sunk, and it had changed in colour. As the ethyl nitrite was the most volatile spirit in the liquid it would naturally disappear to the greatest extent through evaporation which went on after it was purchased. Defendant strongly protested against the fact that the other chemists of the town were acquainted with the fact that a summons was to be served upon him some time before he was aware of it himself. He would endeavour to prove that the drug as supplied by him was up to the standard strength when purchased, and for this purpose he had brought an analyst who had examined another sample from the same bottle. He did not seek to hide himself behind the technical point of the extreme volatility of the drug, for however volatile it might be it was obviously his business as a chemist and druggist to keep it up to the proper standard. Neither did he seek to hide himself behind the manufacturer, as he procured it from one of the best manufacturing chemists in the country. Owing to its volatile character they could not warrant it for more than a few months. Expert opinion showed that sweet nitre, when opened only on a few occasions, would lose as much as 20 per cent. of its active principles. It took Supt. Mantle a considerable time to divide the spirit into three parts, whereas he could have done it himself in ten seconds, and all this time the article was losing its strength. He would also point out that twenty-nine days were allowed to elapse before he received the certificate. He should like to know in what condition the spirit had been kept, because if it had not been kept perfectly sealed it would be deteriorating in active principle all the time.

Mr. F. H. Alcock, Birmingham, said he analysed a sample of sweet spirit of nitre which was sent him by defendant, and found that it was up to the standard required, being a medium between the maximum and minimum. It must originally have been of high strength, or it would have deteriorated much more than was indicated in Dr. Dyer's report, considering the unsatisfactory way in which the bottle was corked by the police; in fact, he should have refused to analyse a sample under similar conditions.—Cross-examined: Possibly Dr. Dyer might not have noticed it himself, as he kept assistants. He knew of a case where in eight days sweet spirit of nitre had decreased in strength from the maximum to below the minimum.

The Chairman said the technical objection raised by defendant on the ground that the certificate was not served at the proper time was fatal to the prosecution, so the case would be dismissed. No order was made as to costs.

The case against Mr. Routen was then decided. Here the spirit had been kept in stock for upwards of eighteen months, and a fine of 2s. 6d., including costs, was imposed.

At the Loughborough Petty Sessions on November 7, Charles Jones, chemist, Market Place, Loughborough, was summoned for having sold sweet spirit of nitre containing not more than 1½ per cent. of nitrous ether. The Bench, having heard from the prosecutor, as well as from Mr. Jones's solicitor, that the spirit rapidly deteriorated, allowed the case to be withdrawn on payment of the costs.

WILLIAM STEVENSON, chemist, of Shephed, was summoned for a similar offence, and with the same result.

A POINT OF LAW.

At the Brighton Borough Police Court on November 2, Arthur Wellesley Cole and Arthur D. Cole, trading as "Dawkins & French," spice-merchants, of 34 Rotherhithe New Road, were summoned, at the instance of the Corpora-

tion, for selling pepper which had been adulterated with not less than 30 per cent. of Indian corn. The defendants pleaded not guilty. It appeared that on July 2, a Mr. Crowther, a pork-butcher, purchased 56 lbs. of pepper at 9½d. per lb. On July 5, a lad went to the shop with four 14-lb. boxes, which he said he had just brought from London, and at the same time handed in a bill for white pepper amounting to 2l. 4s. 4d. The youth asked for payment, but witness said that was unusual, as he usually obtained a month's credit. He opened the boxes before paying, and found they did not contain what he expected. He said to the lad, "This is a fraud," and detained the boxes. The lad said he did not know what they contained. He was told to deliver the goods, and take the money back. Inspector Cuckney took samples of the pepper the same evening. On July 6, witness received a letter from Messrs. Dawkins & French asking for a sample, but none was sent. On July 7, he received a letter from them thanking him for the sample, and intimating that defendants had sent pork-seasoning in mistake for pepper, and asking him to keep it at the market-price. On July 11, he received another letter saying that their representative would take the pork-seasoning back. He had never paid for the goods. The sample produced by the traveller when he first called for orders was good unbleached pepper, but that sent in the boxes was very poor. It seemed half pepper, and the other half coarse sand. He made his own pork-seasoning. Mr. Scart, on behalf of the defendants, raised an objection at this point, that under the Act a copy of the analyst's certificate should have been served with the summons, whereas the certificate had not been sent. Eventually the case was adjourned for a month, in order that the prosecution might look up the point of law raised by the defence.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

RICHARD GEORGE CHAPMAN, 42 High Street, Smethwick, Stafford, Chemist and Druggist.

THE adjourned examination of this debtor was held last week at the West Bromwich County Court. The Assistant Official Receiver stated that the debtor had not filed the requisite accounts, to which the debtor replied that he was without means to employ an accountant, and he was unable to furnish the accounts in the form required by the Official Receiver. The Registrar ordered the debtor to file the best accounts he could, and adjourned the examination to enable him to do so.

Re ARTHUR L. STOBBS, late of Billiter Buildings, E.C., Chemical-merchant, &c.

THIS debtor attended on November 6, before Mr. Registrar Linklater, at the London Bankruptcy Court, for public examination upon accounts showing debts 1,262l. 6s. 10d. and no available assets.

In the course of his examination by the Official Receiver, the debtor stated that he commenced business as a chemical and colour merchant in September, 1889, in co-partnership with two others at the above address, and traded under the style of Stobbs, Wilson & Pollard. One of the parties provided 500l., which was the whole of the partnership-capital. Witness retired from the firm in December, 1898, and subsequently, in order to avoid his outstanding debts, he promoted Stobbs (Limited), chemical and colour merchants, which company carried on business at Idol Lane until April, 1900. Since then he had managed a similar business for relatives.

The examination was ordered to be concluded.

Re JOHN MAWBY and VINCENT HARRY ELLIOTT (trading in co-partnership as Mawby & Elliott), 253 Belgrave Gate, Leicester, Manufacturing Chemists.

THE receiving order in this case was made upon the debtors' own petition. They began business last January with 8l. capital. The debtor Mawby had previously been in the employment of a firm of wholesale druggists; Elliott had been a retail druggist at Belgrave for about nine months, and there are separate debts still outstanding to the amount of 73l. in respect of this business. The amount of trade done seems to have been very small, quite insufficient for the business to pay. So far as is known there are hardly any assets—the remaining stock was sold to pay the costs of the bankruptcy proceedings. There are no separate liabilities in Mawby's case, and no separate assets in either case. The joint statement of affairs shows liabilities amounting to 93l. 1s. 11d.

and assets estimated at 19l. 13s. 10d., thus showing a deficiency of 73l. 8s. 1d. The debtors state with regard to the causes of their failure: "Our profit has not been large enough to pay our expenses and maintenance." The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Rawstom, J. & G. (Limited), Hull	...	18	13 5
Recketts & Son, Hull	...	10	18 6

Separate Estate of V. H. Elliott.

Potter & Clarke, London	...	14	4	11
Smith, Power & Co., Coventry	...	20	5	11

Re THOMAS HUGHES WILLIAMS, Eccleston Street, Prescott,
The High-class Drug-stores.

THE public examination of this debtor took place before Mr. Registrar Bellringer, at Liverpool, on November 1. The statement of affairs showed liabilities unsecured 198l. 16s. 10d. and assets 80l. 11s. 6d., the latter consisting of stock-in-trade (cost 50l.) 30l.; trade fixtures, utensils, &c., 35l.; and book debts, 13l. The first meeting of creditors had been called for the preceding day, but a quorum was not formed. The principal creditor was represented by Mr. Banks, solicitor, Liverpool, and the bankrupt was questioned by the Official Receiver at considerable length, principally as to the connection of a Mr. Thomas Dennett with the business from July, 1899, to March, 1900. The bankrupt stated that he commenced as a chemist and druggist at 38a Eccleston Street, Prescott, in August, 1896, with 15l. capital. In April, 1899, he made an assignment to a trustee (a Mr. Halsall) for the benefit of creditors, and the trustee carried on the business, with him as assistant, until July, 1899, when he sold the stock and fixtures to Mr. Dennett for 130l. He then became manager for Mr. Dennett. Some of the creditors, he alleged, knew that the business belonged to Mr. Dennett, and some of the goods were invoiced to Dennett, Williams & Co. In March, 1900, Mr. Dennett transferred the business to him for 130l., he (the bankrupt) agreeing to pay all the debts due in connection with the business since the sale by the trustee to Mr. Dennett. About 60l. of the present debts were for goods supplied during Mr. Dennett's time. He alleged that he paid Mr. Dennett 44l. on account of the purchase-money, and gave him a promissory note for 86l., payable at 1l. per week, for the remainder. In September last he fell into arrears with these payments, and on Mr. Dennett threatening to take action, he (the bankrupt) arranged to execute an assignment to Mr. D. P. Davies, a Liverpool accountant, for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Dennett, as landlord of the premises, then distrained for rent, and filed a petition, on which he (the bankrupt) consented to a receiving order. The assignment to Mr. D. P. Davies, he believed, was registered; but he could not say whether formal possession was taken under the deed. Mr. Davies sent a clerk, who received one day's takings of the shop—less expenses—amounting to about 11s., but that was all he got. He had never kept a cash-book, and he denied that he had destroyed any book. Mr. Banks examined the bankrupt as to certain furniture, and it transpired that this had not been disclosed, and the Official Receiver said that was the first he had heard of it. The examination was adjourned for a fortnight, in order that further inquiries might be made, mainly as to the furniture.

Re GEORGE GROVE BLACKWELL, Jun., 101 Leadenhall Street, E.C.
Chemical-manufacturer and Broker.

THIS debtor attended on November 7, before Mr. Registrar Gifford, at the London Bankruptcy Court for public examination. The total liabilities were 7,370l., with assets valued at sufficient to yield a surplus of 4,782l. after payment of debts.

The debtor stated that in 1894 he took over the London branch of the firm of G. G. Blackwell, Sons & Co., chemical-manufacturers and brokers, carrying on business at Liverpool. He entered into three contracts for delivery of about 4,000 tons of chrome ore valued at 20,000l., which resulted in a loss of 9,000l., which was paid by his father. He had no capital other than 500l. shares in the Diamond Emery Company (Limited), given him by his father. In January, 1899 he entered into three contracts for the delivery to him of about 300 tons of chemically-pure glycerin, at the price of 44l. per ton. He was to be financed by his bankers, but the market went up and he was unable to take delivery, with the result that he agreed to pay 750l. for non-fulfilment of the contract. Then in March, 1899, he entered into a contract to supply 50 tons of French crude glycerin at 22l. 10s. per ton, and during the following month he made a further contract to supply a similar quantity at 23l. 10s. per ton. He was, owing to the state of the market, unable to complete the contracts, and on the matter being settled by arbitration he was called upon to pay 750l. to the other parties, who were the petitioning creditors. Early in 1898 witness entered into negotiations for the purchase of nickel and chrome ores in New Caledonia, which resulted in a loss of 1,000l. In June, 1899, he contracted to purchase for 750,000f. the business of Le Société Française des Glycerines

Puree, at Clichy, Paris, to be paid for by debenture bonds of a company to be formed to carry on the business. He covenanted to form an English company with a nominal capital of 80,000l. to take over the French glycerin concern, and undertook to obtain subscribers of 10,000l. shares therein. He was unable to carry this through, and the whole business collapsed. The examination was ordered to be concluded.

New Companies & Company News.

SAPON (LIMITED).—Capital 30,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with R. R. Nutt, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in the substance known as "Sapon," soap-boilers, manufacturers of soap, cleaning-preparations, disinfectants, and chemicals, &c. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 200l. Remuneration, 150l. each per annum (50l. extra for the chairman) and a share in the profits.

MILLS & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire the business now carried on by a company of the same name, and to carry on the business of animal food, condiment, medicine, and ointment manufacturers, &c. The first directors are: J. T. Walters, H. Wing, and J. M. G. Carmichael. Qualification, 100l. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 13 Wellington Street, Leicester.

ALFRED LAWSON, SON & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000l., in 1l. shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at 8–18 Hornby Street, Liverpool, as "Alfred Lawson, Son & Co.," and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, oil and colour merchants, iron and tinplate workers and decorators, brush makers, warehousemen, turpentine and petroleum distillers, &c. The first subscribers are:—George Lawson, 12 Norman Road, Seacombe, Cheshire, manufacturing chemist; Mrs. I. Lawson, 12 Norman Road, Seacombe, Cheshire; William B. Williams, 14 Buchanan Road, Seacombe, Cheshire, printer; Mrs. M. M. Lawson, 37 Poulton Road, Seacombe, Cheshire; Miss A. Downworth, 8 Silvester Street, Liverpool; James Downworth, 8 Silvester Street, Liverpool, manufacturing chemist; and Robert F. Riley, 24 Roscoe Lane, Liverpool, clerk. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Remuneration, 5 per cent. of the net profits.

W. G. THOMPSON & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 70,000l., in 5,000 Preference shares of 5l. each and 45,000 Ordinary shares of 1l. each. Objects: To acquire the business now carried on at Tonge, near Middleton, and at Manchester, by William Goulden Thompson and William Gregory Thompson under the style or firm of "W. G. Thompson & Co.," and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in dyes, oils, colours, varnishes, inks, drugs, gum, starch, soap, indiarubber, manures, chemical and medicinal preparations, proprietary articles, &c. The first subscribers are:—William Goulden Thompson, 5 Cooper Street, Manchester, aniline-dye manufacturer; William Gregory Thompson, Cooper Street, Manchester, aniline-dye manufacturer; George Nicholl, 5 Cooper Street, Manchester, cashier; Walter S. Thompson, 5 Cooper Street, Manchester, traveller; Stanley G. Thompson, Tonge Springs Works, Middleton, managing chemist; George W. Thompson, Broomfield, Wood Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, gentleman; and John H. Blurton, 1 Heald Place, Rusholme, Manchester, bookkeeper. The first directors are William Goulden Thompson, William Gregory Thompson, and George Nicholl. Qualification, 300l. Remuneration, as fixed by the company. Registered office, 5 Cooper Street, Manchester.

SHARP'S SOAP AND PERFUMERY COMPANY (LIMITED).—The winding up of this company was down for hearing in Chambers on Wednesday.

THE ULSTER CHEMISTS (LIMITED).—The creditors of this company are required on or before December 8, 1900, to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors, if any, to Hugh Smylie, chartered accountant, of Donegall Square Buildings, Belfast, the liquidator.

FROMMS EXTRACT COMPANY (LIMITED).—The petition of Albert Schwarz, for the compulsory winding-up of this company, was down for hearing before Mr. Justice Wright, in the Companies' Winding-up Court, on October 7. Mr. Martelli, for creditors, applied that the petition should stand over for a fortnight, as they had to obtain an affidavit from a gentleman who was in Stuttgart. It was alleged that the substratum of the company was gone, and the petition had stood over in order that they might give security for costs. They had since handed in a number of notices of those opposing the petition. The hearing was adjourned for a fortnight.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

ALL the members of the Council turned up at Wednesday's meeting with the exception of Mr. Harrington, who is ill. Grants amounting to 59% were made from the Benevolent Fund. The death of Mrs. Linford, an annuitant, was announced, and the rather unusual case of an annuitant resigning was recorded. The library is to be opened on Thursday evenings till 9 o'clock, the Council having acceded to the prayer of a petition from members to that effect. New examiners for England and Scotland were appointed in place of those who retire or have retired, those for England being Mr. W. M. Holmes, Mr. Spratt Taylor, and Mr. Edmund White. Professor Bower and Mr. David Gilmour are the new examiners for Scotland. Mr. Storrar submitted a resolution in reference to the length of time candidates have to wait between the submission of their Preliminary certificates and the notice that they are accepted by the Board of Examiners. The President was amusingly uneasy when Mr. Storrar rose to speak, as, not knowing what was coming, he fancied Scotland was on the war-path. The appointment of divisional secretaries is deferred till December, as the suggestions and nominations received require consideration. Mr. Glyn-Jones has procured the appointment of a committee composed of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Mr. Park, Mr. Hills, Mr. Storrar, and himself to collect information as to the qualifications of dispensers and the conditions under which dispensing is done in the army, public institutions, and elsewhere.

The monthly Council meeting was held on November 7. There were present the President (Mr. Newsholme), the Vice-President (Mr. C. B. Allen), the Treasurer (Mr. Atkins), and Messrs. Carteghe, Cooper, Corder, Cross, Glyn-Jones, Harrison, Hills, Johnston, Martindale, Park, Savory, Southall, Storrar, Symes, Taylor, Wootton, and Young.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, the PRESIDENT said Mr. Harrington had written that he was laid up with neuritis, but was so far recovered that he hoped to go to the seaside in a few days to recruit.

The Secretary of the College of Preceptors thanked the Council for their kind expressions in regard to the pleasant relations which had for years existed between the College and the Society, and hoped they would continue.

DEATHS.

The PRESIDENT announced that Sir H. W. Dyke-Acland, a distinguished physician and an honorary member of the Society, had passed away. He addressed the students in 1886, and was a man who would be greatly missed. Brief reference was also made to the death of Mr. Moscrop, at the age of 81, who had been a liberal subscriber to the Benevolent Fund.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATION.

Two gentlemen and one lady were elected members of the Society, a pharmaceutical chemist was granted the diploma of the Society, and the name of a chemist and druggist was restored to the register on payment of the guinea fee.

FINANCE.

The report of the Finance Committee was read. It showed the following balances:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund account	3,445	9	3
Benevolent Fund—			
Current account	309	7	9
Donation account	260	0	0
Orphan account	258	10	6

A sum of 2,021*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* was submitted for payment from the General Fund account, and 33*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* from the

Benevolent Fund current account. The payments to be made were, in round figures—

	£	s.	d.
Examiners' fees	490	0	0
Journal	429	0	0
Small accounts	100	0	0
Taxes	170	0	0
Current expenses	300	0	0
Law expenses	32	0	0
Sundries	479	0	0

The report was adopted, the PRESIDENT remarking that there was nothing to draw attention to in the payments.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was then taken in committee, after which

The VICE-PRESIDENT, moving that the report be received and adopted, said that grants, three of 13*l.* and two of 10*l.*, were proposed to be made, and that one annuitant, Mrs. Linford, had died. He mentioned also that Mrs. Beaton, who had been on the fund for twenty-six years, had resigned her annuity owing to a change in the condition of her family affairs.

The TREASURER, in seconding the motion, said that Mrs. Beaton was their oldest annuitant, having been elected in 1874, and she was 81 years of age. Mrs. Beaton's son, who had been supporting a sister, was relieved from doing that owing to her marriage, and now proposed to support his mother. Mrs. Linford, the annuitant who had died, was the widow of an old member of the Board of Examiners. Mrs. Linford was elected to the fund in 1893, and he (Mr. Atkins) heard from a friend that the annuity had been highly appreciated, and a source of considerable comfort to her.

The report was adopted.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, and House Committee was read. It contained the usual statements from the librarian and curator, who also reported on their attendances at the Museum Association and Library Association meetings. It recommended also that the prayer of a petition from members of the Society, asking that the library be open at least one evening in the week, be granted, and that the library be open till 9 o'clock on Thursdays, beginning October 18. The school staff also reported. The same committee, sitting as a Research Committee, received reports from Professors Collie and Greenish, and recommended that a small honorarium be made to Messrs. Deane and Heslop for work done in connection with the pharmacopoeial standards.

The PRESIDENT said the only paragraph he need refer to was that recommending that the library be open on Thursday evenings. It had been decided to try it as an experiment, and, if it succeeded, to make it a permanency.

Mr. MARTINDALE thought it would be a boon to many to be able to visit the library and change books on at least one evening of the week.

The report was adopted.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

The PRESIDENT: The next item on the agenda is the report of the Law and Parliamentary Committee, and all I have to say at present is that the committee are not prepared to report.

EXAMINATION-MATTERS.

The Boards of Examiners reported on the October examinations. There were in England 9 Major candidates, of whom 3 passed. For the Minor there were 228 candidates, and 60 passed. In Scotland 1 Major candidate was examined, and he passed; and of 87 Minor candidates, 35 passed. For the First examination 1,062 candidates were examined, and 521 passed, whilst 30 certificates were accepted in lieu of the examination.

The General Purposes Committee reported that a sub-committee, appointed to consider the nomination of examiners in place of those who retire by rotation, recommended that Mr. W. Murton Holmes, Mr. Spratt Taylor, and Mr. Edmund White be appointed, in place of Messrs. Arkinstall, Tanner, and Wright, on the English Board. On the Scotch Board, Professor Bower and Mr. David Gilmour were

appointed, in place of Professor I. Bayley Balfour and Mr. A. Davidson.

Mr. STORRAR said he had a little matter to bring forward.

The PRESIDENT: Does it refer to a special case?

Mr. STORRAR: No.

The PRESIDENT: We have had no report of the meeting of the Executive, so that we do not know what you are bringing forward.

Mr. STORRAR said the Executive had asked him to put a resolution before the Council asking if the time between the receipt and acceptance of Preliminary certificates from Minor candidates could be shortened. It appeared to him to be a perfectly legitimate subject for the Executive to discuss, and he hoped the matter would be placed before the General Purposes Committee.

The PRESIDENT: The Council have no report of the meeting of the Executive.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: Who sent you that resolution?

Mr. STORRAR: Mr. Hill. I thought he had also sent the Council notice, but the Secretary tells me nothing has been received.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: It is very discourteous of Mr. Hill not to report to his chief what took place at the meeting. There has been a great deal of misunderstanding lately.

The SECRETARY read the resolution again, but some of the councillors professed not to understand it.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said, as he understood the matter, it was simply asking the Council to shorten the time between the receipt and acceptance of Preliminary certificates. He was informed that now it might take as long as three months, which meant that a candidate would have to put off his entry for examination for that period. He knew it was because the Board of Examiners did not meet, but thought that, where the certificates were quite straightforward, the delay could be avoided.

DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES.

The PRESIDENT announced that the appointment of divisional secretaries could not be made at that meeting. There was always considerable difficulty in starting a new system. The Secretary had sent cards to every member of the Society not residing in London and Edinburgh, asking for recommendations, and there had been so many suggestions made that there had not been time to get the names ready. He would like the Council to defer the matter till December, when they would be better able to grasp the statistics. Hitherto the selection had been left in the hands of the President and Secretary, which was not fair either to the Council or to the President. If the organisation was to be of any value, a real effort should be made to find out if the men selected were the best. He (the President) suggested that Mr. Carteighe and the Vice-President might be appointed to make the selection. The Federation of Chemists' Associations had helped the Society a lot by getting local societies to meet and discuss the matter.

Mr. SOUTHALL said some of the centres found it hard work to send in the names by the time fixed. Would it be any use to send in nominations now?

The PRESIDENT: We should be glad to receive any suggestions.

Mr. YOUNG was not surprised that more time was needed the apathy and indolence of the trade was habitual.

Mr. HARRISON said it was important that it should be known that names could still be received.

Mr. SOUTHALL asked if it could be tacked on to the resolution, as he thought that perhaps people might read the resolution who would not read the speeches.

Dr. SYMES said it would be better to make the appointments earlier than December in future, as he regarded the present as the best time for looking up non-subscribers to the Society and Benevolent Fund.

A PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE.

The SECRETARY reported that one of the students had presented a certificate from the University of Malta for the Entrance examination. He had made inquiries at the College of Preceptors and was informed that it was a good certificate. It was superior to one of the same university they had previously accepted.

A resolution was passed empowering the Board of Examiners to accept the certificate.

DISPENSERS' QUALIFICATIONS.

Mr. GLYN-JONES then proposed the following resolution, of which he had given notice:—

That a committee be formed to collect information as to the qualifications of those engaged as dispensers, and the conditions under which the dispensing is carried on in the army, public institutions, and elsewhere.

The matter was, he said, one which he hoped he was right in thinking required little advocacy before that Council. Dispensing was a subject with which the Council was particularly identified. Some of the members were perhaps of the opinion that it was not a statutory duty to make these inquiries, but he took it that the duty of the Council was to take an active interest in pharmacy wherever carried out. It was a good opportunity to move in the matter, as early in the year the War Office asked for volunteer compounders, and a large number were employed as such. It would be of interest to the Council to know what were the qualifications of those dispensers, because, as they were aware, army dispensers were allowed to be suitable men to act as poor-law dispensers in civil life. Any of those gentlemen who had been employed as compounders in the army would be in a position to accept situations in poor-law institutions, and it seemed to him that if a qualification was necessary anywhere it was in poor-law institutions. Poor-law dispensers not only had the sole control of the dispensing-department, but were responsible only to the Board of Guardians, and not to the medical officers. He saw in this a position of great responsibility which should only be held by properly qualified men. The Council had rather special facilities for finding out the qualifications of those who were employed in the army as volunteers, and it would be very interesting to know what remuneration they received, and how they were treated. He had been told that men who had passed the Minor had been asked to go to South Africa at 3s. 6d. per day and rations. It was on matters of that kind they might get information. It was their duty to take active steps to get to know the conditions under which dispensing was done, and this they could do through their local secretaries or their own members coming back from South Africa. His motion was simply a request for a committee to be appointed to carry out inquiries.

Mr. HARRISON seconded the resolution. He thought it was of great importance to know how the dispensing of medicines was carried on in the army. One thing certain was that the people of this country were determined that work done in connection with the army should be carried through in a thorough manner, and it seemed a good opportunity to inquire into how the dispensing for the army was done. If it was found to be well done it would be a satisfaction to all concerned, but if otherwise they would be doing a service to the country by suggesting any improvements which might occur to them. There had been great negligence also in connection with poor-law dispensing, and here they would be doing good service in making suggestions for improving matters. The resolution was a far-reaching one, but he did not think that a reason why they should not take it up.

Mr. WOOTTON said Mr. Harrison had hit on a reason for this committee being appointed, as it was very certain there would be an inquiry into army administration. They should be in a position to place statistics before the authorities, and suggest improvements in the way dispensing was done in the army. He would like to suggest that the committee be empowered to obtain particulars of the status of the dispenser, not only in the British but in foreign armies. He believed the British Army was the only one in the world which did not give compounders a recognised position. In the United States army compounders ranked in some way as officers, but in the British Army there was no organisation whatever. They would be prepared, after considering the matter, to submit what might appear to them to be desirable improvements in the regulations of dispensers in the Army.

Mr. STORRAR said the speakers rather widened the scope of the resolution, but he considered it was the Council's duty to make some inquiries into the matter. It was quite as important to have properly qualified men in the army and poor-houses, as for civilians. When inquiring into the status of compounders in South Africa, he thought they

might well inquire under whom the compounder served—if under a man who only held the Army qualification. He knew of a case of an army dispenser who had not done a single day's or night's dispensing during the two years he was in training. The compounder had been employed at Netley as a clerk and did duty on sentry-go, but had absolutely no qualification as a dispenser.

Mr. HILLS said he was in complete sympathy with the resolution, and thought the present time was very opportune. He did not hesitate to say, as some of the speakers did, that the condition of things revealed would be found most objectionable in many of the public departments. He had only had to do with the Naval Hospital appointments, which were, he thought, the most satisfactory to them. The Army appointments depended upon the army regulations, so that it was important they should consider the matter from an army point of view. If they could get public opinion with them on the matter of employing qualified men to dispense in the army, their task would be easy, otherwise it would be one of great difficulty.

Mr. TAYLOR said he had had two spells as a dispenser in public institutions, and knew what the conditions were. He considered that poor-law dispensers were placed in a condition of nerve-strain and responsibility that existed in very few shops. If they could make life sweeter, healthier, and more honourable for these men, it would be well, and would also show that membership of the Society was of some benefit to them.

Mr. YOUNG was not quite so sure that it was any part of their duty to interfere with what was quite an outside matter. The result would probably disclose a deplorable state of affairs, and they would have no power to enforce any remedies. They might be told to mind their own business if they made suggestions to some of the public bodies.

"ELSEWHERE."

Dr. SYMES said he would like to know the meaning of "elsewhere" in the resolution. When they were discussing the question of poison regulations he tried to induce the Council to make them applicable to chemists' shops and "elsewhere," but was told they had no authority. His opinion was that the Council was concerned in dispensing wherever carried on. In regard to the remuneration of compounders he knew of a dispenser, a refugee from Durban, who dispensed on the *Nubia*, and whose remuneration was 7s. a day with the position of a non-commissioned officer. The appointment, however, was made in the colony.

Mr. MARTINDALE said they should take account of the movement which had for its object obtaining employment for retired soldiers. Probably it was thought that compounders were suited for dispenserships when they returned to civil life. The Army inquiry, he took it, would be more as to the medical system than as to dispensing, so that they should be prepared to put forward suggestions for improving the conditions under which dispensing was carried on in the Army. He had been over two or three battleships, and had found that the arrangements for dispensing were fairly efficiently carried out.

Mr. SOUTHALL: Were the dispensers qualified?

Mr. PARK: Not necessarily.

Mr. MARTINDALE saw no reason why men who had begun in pharmacy and enlisted might not be employed as helps in dispensing in the army and navy, but the position of the dispenser should be a better recognised one than it was now. They could make a report to the War Office and advise if necessary.

The PRESIDENT asked what Mr. Glyn-Jones meant by "elsewhere"; did it mean anywhere and everywhere?

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he meant exactly what he said. He did not suggest an inquisition, but a committee to collect information as to the conditions wherever dispensing was done.

Mr. ATKINS said the present was the right time to make inquiries if ever there was a time. The country had resolved to inquire into the working of the Army departments, and the Society was the body most interested in pharmacy. He thought, however, that "elsewhere" was a big order. At Salisbury the doctors send their own physic to the workhouse; but at the hospital, on the death of the old dispenser, he found it was only necessary to mention to the governors that

it was a suitable opportunity to appoint a qualified man, and they did so. He did not think with Mr. Young that they would be told to mind their own business if they made suggestions to public bodies, but they had to remember that their powers were limited.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said that if they only existed to carry out their statutory duties the sooner they ceased to exist the better. The statutory duties could be well carried on by a Government department. They did many things besides their statutory duties—the carrying on of the school for instance. It was to the interest of pharmacy that the suggested inquiries should be made, but he had not hinted at the steps to be taken afterwards; they could decide on those when they had finished. They could not be exceeding their duties in making inquiries through their own members. He could give some interesting information himself on the conditions under which dispensing was done. They need have no fear that they would be exceeding their duties.

The motion was put and carried.

The PRESIDENT said it was now their duty to say who the members should be.

The members of the committee eventually chosen were the President, Vice-President, Mr. Glyn-Jones, Mr. Park, Mr. Hills, and Mr. Storrar.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said the duties would be to a large extent mechanical; there would be no questions of policy.

Letters were read from Mr. Bright, the Federation, and three local Associations and were referred to committee.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

At the adjourned meeting of the Executive, held on November 2, at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, Mr. Peter Boa in the chair, on the motion of Mr. DOIG, seconded by Mr. EWING, the following recommendation to the Council was adopted:—

That Frederick Orpen Bower (professor of botany in the University of Glasgow), Leonard Dobbin (lecturer on chemical theory and assistant to the professor of chemistry in the University of Edinburgh), Peter Boa (Edinburgh), John James Fraser (Edinburgh), David Gilmour (Dunfermline), J. Innes (Arbroath), George Lunan (Edinburgh), and James Fowler Tocher (Peterhead) be nominated for election by the Council as members of the Board of Examiners for Scotland for the year 1901.

Professor Bower takes the place of Professor Bayley Balfour, and Mr. Gilmour fills the place of Mr. Davidson.

It was remitted to the Chairman and Assistant Secretary to make out a list of divisional secretaries for Scotland. The general question of organisation in Scotland was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

A discussion took place, introduced by Mr. DOIG, on the question of the three months' notice required by candidates intending to enter for the Minor examination and the presentation of certificates, and it was agreed to instruct Mr. Storrar to solicit the Council to consider the advisability of shortening the period in which the preliminary certificates for the Minor examination must be sent in prior to the examination. This was all the business.

New Books.

Clarke, J. H. *Prescriber: Dictionary of New Therapeutics*. 6th ed. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{8}$. Pp. 308. 4s. net. (Homeo. Pub. Co.)

Golebiewski, E. *Atlas and Epitome of Diseases caused by Accidents*. Trans. by P. Bailey. Cr. 8vo. 17s. net. (Rebman.)

Lummer, O. *Contributions to Photographic Optics*. Translated and augmented by Silvanus P. Thompson. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 148. 6s. net. (Macmillan.)

McIlvaine, C., Macadam, R. K. *Toadstools, Mushrooms, Fungi, Edible and Poison*. (Popular work). Plates (34 coloured). 4to. (Indianapolis) London. 6js.

Mitchell, C. A. *Flesh Foods: with Methods for their Chemical, Microscopical, and Bacteriological Examination: a Practical Handbook for Medical Men, Analysts, Inspectors, and others*. Illus. 8vo. (Philadelphia) London. 15s.

Borough Elections.

A GOODLY number of candidates connected with pharmacy and the chemical and drug trades have been returned. We subjoin the names of those who have been elected councillors for the places in which they reside, including those returned for the new boroughs of London. Many others have tried, but failed. These we do not name:—

Mr. George B. Barnard, chemist and druggist, for the North Ward of Bethnal Green. At the top of the poll.

Mr. Ernest H. Barritt, pharmaceutical chemist, Beaconsfield Avenue, Colchester, for the North Ward. At the head of the poll.

Mr. James Bisset, chemist, Burntisland (re-elected).

Mr. T. A. Burgess, chemist, Aberavon, Glam. (re-elected). At the top of the poll.

Mr. William Butcher, chemist and druggist (of Butcher & Son), for Blackheath Ward of Lewisham.

Mr. Edward Cardwell, J.P. (of Whinpray, Tebbets & Cardwell), chemist and druggist, Market Street, Lancaster. Unopposed.

Mr. Robt. Carruthers, pharmaceutical chemist, Dumfries.

Mr. Richard Clark (Raines, Clark & Co., wholesale druggists), for St. Stephen's Ward of Edinburgh. At the top of the poll.

Mr. C. Goddard Clarke, L.C.C. (of Potter & Clarke, Artillery Row, E.C.), for Rye Ward of Camberwell. At the top of the poll.

Mr. Alfred C. Cole, pharmaceutical chemist, Lee, for Church Ward of Lewisham. At the top of the poll.

Baillie Wm. Doig, chemist and druggist, has been re-elected to the Dundee Town Council.

Mr. Charles Durant, patent-medicine proprietor, 12 Witham Bank, Boston, for the Barge Ward. At the top of the poll.

Mr. George Eade, pharmaceutical chemist, for the West Ward of Finsbury.

Mr. Wm. Edmondson, chemist and druggist, Kendal, for the East Ward. Unopposed.

Mr. D. L. Evans, chemist, 10 Bedford Terrace, Kensington, W., for St. Marylebone (No. 3 Ward).

Mr. Edward H. Flower, chemist and druggist, Hemel Hempstead, re-elected for the South Ward.

Mr. E. T. Harley, chemist and druggist, 262 Mare Street, Hackney, for Hackney.

Mr. John Appleyard Heaton, chemist and druggist, Burnley, for that town. He is President of the Burnley Chemists' Association. With the exception of Alderman Parkinson, J.P., who is a wholesale chemist and druggist on a pretty large scale, Mr. Heaton is the only gentleman on the local governing body representing the trade. His colleagues in the town and district much appreciate his being returned to the Council. One of the electioneering-cries of Mr. Heaton's opponent, a butcher, was "Beef *versus* Drugs—which will you have?" This caused much amusement and comment in the town.

Mr. Alfred Hind, dispenser, Beverley. Re-elected for the Minster Ward.

Mr. George A. Hodgkinson, chemist and druggist, Somers Town, for No. 6 Ward of St. Pancras.

Mr. T. H. W. Idris, L.C.C., chemist and druggist, for No. 1 Ward of St. Pancras.

Mr. W. Lyle, chemist and druggist, Rothesay.

Mr. John J. Mathias, pharmaceutical chemist (retired), for Lewisham Village Ward of Lewisham.

Mr. Robert Mathieson, chemist, Innerleithen.

Mr. Matthey (of Johnson, Matthey & Co., Hatton Garden, W.C.), for Saffron Hill Ward of Holborn.

Mr. John Peebles, chemist and druggist, Kirkcaldy.

Mr. Henry Potter (of Potter & Clarke, Artillery Row, E.C.), for Spitalfields East Ward of Stepney.

Col. Clifford Probyn, L.C.C., chemist and druggist (Hooper & Co., 1, Pall Mall), for Charing Cross Ward of Westminster. At the top of the poll.

Mr. Richard A. Robinson, L.C.C., chemist and druggist (Malden & Co., Brompton Road), for Brompton Division of Kensington. Unopposed.

Mr. John Slater, chemical-manufacturer, Infirmary Road, Blackburn.

Mr. J. D. Smith (Messrs. Smith & Sons, wholesale and retail druggists, Norwich) for the Coslany Ward, which he has represented since 1897.

Mr. Alex. Spence, chemist and druggist, Linlithgow.

Mr. Walter Stavert, chemist and druggist, Selkirk.

Mr. E. H. Storey (Messrs. Bird & Storey), pharmaceutical chemist, 42 Castle Street East, Oxford Street, W., for Marylebone.

Mr. R. W. Walden, chemist, Eaton Square, S.W., for Knightsbridge Ward, Westminster. Mr. Walden was Chairman of the Food and Drugs Committee, Lighting Committee, and Vice-

Chairman of the Libraries Committee in the late Vestry of St. George, Hanover Square.

Mr. Isaac T. Ward, chemist and druggist, 267 King Street, Chelsea, S.W., for the Stanley Ward of Chelsea.

Mr. Page M. Woodcock, pill-manufacturer, Lothair, St Catherine's, Lincoln.

Mr. Wm. Woolley, wholesale druggist, 9 Bathurst Street, Blackburn.

We have received intimation of the nominations of several chemists as mayors of their boroughs—*e.g.*, Mr. Claridge Druce, for Oxford; Mr. Ekins, for St. Albans; Mr. F. J. Oliver, for Maidstone; Mr. E. P. Wynne, for Aberystwith; Mr. Wrenn, for Taunton (a second term), and others. These we shall deal with next week, as the elections take place after we go to press. Perhaps subscribers will in the meantime send us local newspapers containing reference to mayors or other prominent local authorities connected with pharmacy.

A Successful Smoker.

THE fifth annual smoking-concert in connection with Messrs. Burgoyne, Barbridges and Co.'s cricket club took place on November 2, in the Holborn Town Hall. The concert was as great a success as any of its predecessors and was as well patronised as usual. There were between six and seven hundred people present, amongst whom we noticed Mr. F. Allen (in the chair), Mr. Chas. W. White (in the vice-chair), Mr. H. R. Arnold and Mr. G. R. Moxon (members of the firm), Mr. R. G. Halstead, Mr. E. J. Reid and Mr. P. Goffon (B. B. & Co.), Mr. Leonard Johnson (the Army and Navy Co-operative Society), Mr. M. A. Dobson, Mr. Cook (German Hospital), Mr. Butcher (Peckham), Mr. Moxon (Messrs. Alex. Howden & Co.), Mr. W. C. Allen and Mr. Allen, jun. (Messrs. Stafford Allen & Son), Mr. J. E. Bryant, Mr. C. McCombie, Mr. F. C. Stephens (Messrs. May & Baker), Mr. Fuller (Junior Army and Navy Stores), Mr. Evans, Mr. Gray, and Mr. Hood (Messrs. Evans, Gray & Hood), Mr. Williams, jun. (Messrs. Ferris & Williams), Mr. H. Lorenz and Mr. C. S. Marks (Messrs. Marks & Sons). The stewards, whose duties were to look after the singers and the Press, were Messrs. W. C. Harris, H. Potter, W. Crawford, J. P. Ryley, A. M. Cheyne, E. R. King, and V. de Wyttensbach. Mr. E. A. Hearn had the direction of the concert and was responsible for the tasteful decoration of the stage. The following were the chief hits of the evening:—Miss Maud Fowler sang "Killarney" in charming style; Miss Edie Stanton combined singing and dancing; Miss Ruby Verdi's chief song was "I Love Society"; Miss Edie Ross scored with her song "I'm in Love with the Man in the Moon," and Miss Elsie Steadman with "Mary was a Housemaid." Mr. Conway Dixon and Mr. Herbert Linwood gave serious songs, and Mr. Will Edwards and Mr. Berry supplied the comic element. Mr. Will Edwards's song called "Adverts," dealing in a humorous way with advertisements of proprietary medicines, was much appreciated. Mr. Fred Harcourt, "prestidigitateur," did some very clever card-tricks, one in which the cards appeared to grow smaller and vanish altogether exciting much admiration. Mr. Charles Conway gave imitations of Irving and Wyndham. The intervals were filled in with organ-recitals by Mr. A. M. Colchester.

Gazette.

Partnership Dissolved.

Jones, J. T., and Barker, F. J., under the style of Thoresby Jones & Barker, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, W., physicians and surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Bowness, William, Darlington, late Gateshead, commercial traveller, late chemist.

Hartley, Young, Radcliffe, late Ramsbottom and Shuttleworth, drysalter.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The British Pharmacopœia as a Standard.

SIR,—There is no occasion for me to reply at length to Dr. Attfield's letter on page 743. Practically the only statement I have to meet is the following passage:—

When he stated that the Editor of the British Pharmacopœia had held that that compilation had no right or authority to be regarded as a standard for the articles described therein (meaning under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act) he was . . . stating what was untrue.

Further on, Dr. Attfield defies me to point to any such allegation made by him.

In reply, I have only to refer him to the reports of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, held at Plymouth in 1899 (*Year-book of Pharmacy*, 1899, page 353), according to which Dr. Attfield said that

he hoped it would be realised by everyone that the Pharmacopœia, notwithstanding the practice of tribunals and the principle on which barristers made speeches, was not a legal standard under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act; and if one had the courage to test a case in the Superior Courts, he was not afraid to forecast that the Judges of those Courts would agree with what he had stated.

Possibly it is unknown to Dr. Attfield that the above report was quoted by the lawyer for the defence in a recent prosecution under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act (see *C. & D.*, October 27, page 702), and that it has been seriously proposed that he should be called for the defence and asked to repeat in the witness-box the statement he is reported to have made at the Plymouth Conference. I may also give the following quotations from the reports of the speeches of members who attended the Pharmaceutical Conference in London last July:—

Mr. Glyn-Jones. Now, if he were taken into Court and had Dr. Attfield standing by his side to explain that that preface [the B.P. preface] did not mean what it said, of course he would be all right; but how could he dare to tell the Magistrate that the Pharmacopœia standards were not perfect? He would not say that the Pharmacopœia should not be the legal standard for those articles, but he did say that it amounted to a disgrace that a book of the kind, which it was said they should be judged by, should be admitted to be faulty.

Mr. Howard. It was no use for a defendant in a case to go into court and say that Dr. Attfield had said to the Pharmaceutical Conference that the Pharmacopœia was not a standard under the Food and Drugs Act.

However, we have now Dr. Attfield's assurance that he never stated anything of the kind, and hence he must have been misreported. I congratulate him heartily on this fact, and think he ought to be very much obliged to me for giving him the opportunity of setting right a very widespread misconception.

I cordially agree with the greater part of Mr. Dott's letter, but it is not fair to suggest that camphorated oil cannot be made without loss of camphor unless it be prepared in a closed bottle. I have repeatedly found, and therefore I know as a fact, that olive oil may be heated moderately in an open basin and if the proper amount of camphor be added that amount of camphor will be found afterwards. It appears to me unworthy of Mr. Dott, with a wink of the eye, and with tongue in his cheek, to say that the Pharmacopœia only requires 21 per cent. of camphor should be "used," not that it should be "contained" in the finished product. Unfortunately, the records of camphorated oil as sold in the districts for which I am responsible as public analyst, show that not merely 10 per cent. of camphor is present instead of 21 per cent., and cotton oil used as a substitute for olive

oil, but that the preparations commonly sold have contained any proportions of camphor down to 1 per cent., with mineral oil substituted for vegetable oil, and in one case the label on the bottle stated "Prepared with finest olive oil and pure camphor." I do not say that all these defective preparations were sold retail by pharmacists, but they were supplied by wholesale druggists to the vendors.

The main contention of my speech was that with the exception of some articles which ought to be omitted by special Order in Council the Pharmacopœia should, as a matter of policy if not of law, be regarded as a standard for the articles named therein, and that pharmacists would be the chief sufferers if they laid down a law for themselves and sold preparations of inferior activity. When I delivered my speech, whether the Pharmacopœia was a legal standard for the articles named therein was at least open to argument, but the information given in your leading article on page 632 places the matter absolutely beyond doubt. Thus, the Order in Council of 1851 made it compulsory on all who compound medicines in any part of England or Wales to compound them in accordance with the directions of the London Pharmacopœia. The Medical Act of 1862 substituted the British Pharmacopœia for its predecessors, and the Pharmacy Act of 1868 made it compulsory to compound the medicines of the British Pharmacopœia according to the formularies of the said Pharmacopœia. It will be noted that the Order in Council of 1851 (which is still in force) is absolute, and does not simply refer to the dispensing of prescriptions of medical men.

I may further point out that "Gregory's Powder" refers to a prescription by the late Dr. Gregory, and that no dispenser has a right to depart from the terms of the prescription.

I adhere to the statement made in my speech, that if the attempts now being so persistently made to displace the Pharmacopœia from the position it has practically held in the past were to prove successful it would in no way affect the public analyst, but it would greatly affect, and most injuriously, the position of the pharmacist.

I think the practical manner in which I have shown my interest in pharmacists affords proof of my goodwill and sympathy, and should have saved me from Dr. Attfield's courteous allegation that I am a "cunningly grinding an axe."

Yours truly,

Sheffield, November 6.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

Probably Mixed.

SIR,—We note in your last issue a report of a milk-and-sulphur prosecution, in which our name appears as having supplied the retailer. Some seven months ago we supplied to Mr. Wilcockson 4 lbs. sulph. præcip. The B.P. article was sent, and the statement that the sample taken by the inspector was part of our original package, we absolutely deny. A glance at the facts will reveal the force of this. The prosecution rested on the report that the sample contained 14 per cent. calcium sulphate. Our sulph. præcip. is tested on arrival, and we have always found it pure, as guaranteed by the makers. Lac. sulph. commercial contains, as is common knowledge, 40 per cent. and upwards of sulphate of lime, proving that the sample taken by the inspector (containing only 14 per cent.) must have been a mixture. Now, since in all our rooms we have notices respecting the checking of all B.P. drugs and preparations which have a counterpart in unofficial drugs or formulæ, we consider the chances of mixture occurring here extremely small. To us the most feasible explanation is that Mr. W. accidentally mixed lac. sulph. comm. (which he admits to having had from another house) with the pure article, or in placing it into stock has omitted to first remove the old commercial lac. sulph. from the drawer.

Yours respectfully,

BROOK, PARKER & CO. (LIMITED).

Bradford, November 6.

Cardiff and District Pharmaceutical Association.

SIR,—I notice, in your report on the formation of the above, that you say "that an Association was in existence some years ago." I fear that your informant is in error, and that we have now the delayed satisfaction of forming a local Association for the first time, and, we hope, the very long delayed regrets of its failure yet to come. I would

like to take this opportunity, through your columns, of expressing my sincere thanks to the many Associations who have assisted me with copies of their rules and other valuable preliminary help.

Yours, &c.,

W. J. SANDERS,
Hon. Secretary.

Cardiff, November 3.

["Our Cardiff correspondent tells us that Mr. J. Munday, the President, and Mr. A. Coleman, the Secretary of the Cardiff Association of Chemists and Druggists, have made a special canvas for the Benevolent Fund connected with the Pharmaceutical Society, with the result that they have increased the number of subscribers to forty-four, every member of the trade in Cardiff and Penarth being now a contributor to the fund."—*C. & D.*, April 30, 1892.]

*** Exceptional pressure on our space this week compels us to hold over several pages of correspondence, including replies to queries.*

Society of Public Analysts.

THE meeting of the Society of Public Analysts on Wednesday evening was not very fully attended. Had it been generally known that there was to be a discussion of the

PHARMACOPEIA AS A STANDARD

there would have been more of the drug trade present. As it was, we noticed present Messrs. T. Tyrer, C. Tyrer, D. L. Howard, Bird, Glyn-Jones, Davis, and others. The President announced that a sub-committee of the Society had been appointed to confer with the authorities at Somerset House, with a view to arrange a uniform method of analysis of margarine mixtures, in order that the clause of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, which dealt with this subject, might not lead to unnecessary controversies in Court. As a result they had agreed to use the Deichest-Wollny method under definite conditions, and adopt the figure 4 as indicating 10 per cent. of butter in the mixture; 4.3 as 11 per cent.; 4.6 as 12 per cent.; and so on.

A paper was then read by Mr. Laurence Briant on the estimation of the available extract in malt. This paper was of little pharmaceutical interest. After a short discussion the President announced that Mr. C. E. Carsal had been unable to get his paper on "What is meant by the Genuine Product?" ready, so he called upon Mr. Martin Preist to read the paper by Mr. C. G. Moor and himself on "Some B.P. Tests." This dealt with the examination of samples of known genuineness, and of commercial samples of various drugs, the ash limit being the chief point concerned. The author pointed out that genuine samples of cardamoms, colocynth and benzoin do not in many cases comply with the requirements of the Pharmacopœia, especially in the question of ash. They had obtained samples, and prepared them themselves, so that their authenticity was certain. The following results were obtained in the case of cardamoms:—

Ash of whole fruit	Seeds	Husks
5.3–8.2	3.3–5.9	7.1–13.5

The ash of one sample was divided as follows:—

	Whole fruit	Seeds	Husks
Total ...	7.0	5.0	13.3
Soluble... ..	3.2	2.0	7.1
K ₂ O	0.63	0.52	2.6

In the case of colocynth the following results were obtained:—

	Seeds	Pulp
Ash	1.7–3.2	7.8–12.1
Ether ext. ...	11.5–15.3	1.4–11.1

They inferred that Umney's statement that he had obtained 50 per cent. of oil from the seeds to be an error. In the case of benzoin, which should be "almost entirely soluble in alcohol," they had found samples of genuine commercial specimens which yielded the following results:—

Insoluble in alcohol. Sumatra, 8.6, 5.6, 6.8, 6.5, 13.3, 18.4, 7.6, and 15.2. Siam, 0.6, 0.9, and 0.86 per cent.

References were also made to the vexed question of oil of nutmeg, when the authors asserted that the description as distilled from the nutmeg is incorrect, it really being the fractionated product. [The authors have neglected to take

into account the fact that some fixed oil is *mechanically* carried over in the process of distillation in the ordinary way.—*EDITOR C. & D.*] Tincture of strophanthus prepared from the official seeds often yields a red as well as green colour when the residue is treated with sulphuric acid, so that the red colour is not a valid reason for assuming a different seed has been used in the preparation of the tincture. Commercial peppermint-oil and sandal-oil capsules adulterated with cedar or West Indian oil were also referred to, and the paper finished with references to the ash limit of various drugs, such as galbanum, ammoniacum, arnica, serpentina, &c.

The discussion that ensued was not on the paper proper, but at once degenerated into an expression of opinion on the Pharmacopœia as a standard, and of general surprise at the "on the fence" position of its editor. Mr. T. Tyrer, amongst other remarks, considered that it was undoubtedly "the standard for drugs within reasonable and approachable limits." Mr. Howard was much of Mr. Tyrer's opinion. It was at all events the only standard we had. Mr. Bird expressed much the same view. He thought that one might label substances of which an inferior and impure variety was in common use with the word "medicinal," such, for example, as "medicinal nitre." Mr. E. J. Parry discussed the B.P. standards and tests for various oils, such as oil of rose and eucalyptus, and pointed out that one must discriminate between those who wanted to avoid the unreasonableness of adopting the B.P. as a standard in such cases as obviously against all common sense and unfair to the honest trader, and those who feared the B.P. because they wanted to adulterate their products. Mr. Otto Hehner thought that a lifetime—no, several lifetimes, were necessary to accumulate figures for standards, just as had been necessary in the case of milk. As to the present Pharmacopœia, it was not fit to be a standard—not fit, for that matter, to be anything at all. But as a matter of principle the Pharmacopœia ought to be the standard for the purity of drugs, and manufacturers could assist analysts in the matter more than analysts could assist manufacturers.

In replying, Mr. Moor said he had just received a telegram from Mr. A. H. Allen, of Sheffield, in which he said, "Avoid discussion on Pharmacopœia as a standard; am reading a paper on that subject myself in December." He had also received a letter from Dr. Attfield, in response to one from him inviting him to be present, in which he said "he would be no party to lowering the high standard of the Pharmacopœia, and would not countenance driving away from chemists their legitimate trade in articles which had another use than for drugs." The meeting adjourned at 10.30 P.M.

Personalities.

MR. JOHN WATSON, Belfast, Vice-President of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society, was recently elected a director of the Old Public Bakery in Belfast.

MR. JOSEPH SWINBURN TOWNLEY, son of Mr. T. W. Townley, pharmacist, Keswick, last week took the Scotch triple medical qualification at the Royal College of Physicians Edinburgh.

PROFESSOR WYNDHAM R. DUNSTAN, F.R.S., has vacated the chemistry lectureship at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, and has been succeeded by Dr. Arthur W. Crossley, the senior assistant.

MR. EDWIN SAVILLE, son of Mr. John Saville, pharmaceutical chemist, York, has gained the silver medal of the Leeds School of Medicine for the greatest number of distinctions obtained during the third and fourth years of his curriculum for M.B.

MUCH sympathy is felt by the craft in Belfast with Mr. James Tate, L.P.S.I., chairman of the board of directors of Olley & Co. (Limited), printers, stationers, and newsagents, which company is to be voluntarily wound up under the control of the Court. Mr. Olley had so falsified the accounts that dividends were paid when not earned. The detection of this was due to Mr. Tate who, we understand, had such confidence in the concern that recently he bought several parcels of shares that were on the market.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: November 8.

TRADE has been exceptionally quiet this week up to Wednesday, buyers awaiting the drug-auctions which are reported on page 788. Opium is dearer again in Smyrna, owing to speculation, and a considerable business has been done here at higher rates; morphine has also advanced in sympathy. Menthol still keeps rising, and ergot is still tending upwards. Citric acid is slightly easier for spot in some quarters, but makers' price is maintained. Lower quotations for orris have been received from Leghorn, but the article is quiet. There are also cheaper offers of cod-liver oil, owing to the easier feeling in Norway. Ipecacuanha was lower in auction, and quinine has been flat and inactive. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes, Curacao	Ergot	Acid, citric	Benzoin (Pal.)
Buchu	Calumba	Cardamoms	Cocoa-butter
Cinnamon chips	Oil, pepper-	Chillies	Croton-seed
Colocynth pulp	mint (Jap.)	Crown bark	Ferri et quin.
Copaiba		Oil, castor	cit.
Menthol		(Belg.)	Ginger
Morphine			(Calicut)
Oil, caraway			Ipecac.
Opium			Oil, cod-liver
Sassafras-bark			Ol. sandal. flav.
Sugar of milk			Orris
			Quinine
			(sec. hands)
			Shellac
			Valerian

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from November 1 to 6, both inclusive:—Aloes (@ Amst.), 30 cs.; anise (Russ.), 100; antimony (Jap), 20; arsenic (@ Melbourne), 40; benzoin (@ Amsterdam), 21; (@ Rotterdam), 20; camphor, 1; cantharides, 2; caraway-seed, 506; cardamoms, 27; cassia-buds, 100; cassia lignea, 300; castor oil (Belg.), 62; chamomiles, 24; chillies, 26; china-root, 100; cinchona (@ Rotterdam), 98; (@ Colombo), 78; cochineal, 35; cocoa-butter, 31; cod-liver oil, 367; coriander-seed, 203; cream of Tartar, 33; drugs (@ Ghent), 5 bls.; (@ Trieste), 60 bls., 290 pkgs.; (@ Fiume), 18 pkgs.; (@ Palermo), 55 pkgs.; (@ Vigo), 25 bgs.; ergot of rye, 21; essential oils (@ Ostend), 6; (@ Palermo), 28; (@ Messina), 130; eucalyptus oil (Aust), 197; fenugreek-seed, 650; galangal, 134; galls, 10; guinea-grains, 43; honey (Chil.), 170; insect-powder, 33; liquorice-root (Fr.), 41 sks.; manna, 3; oil, castor (Ital.), 16; opium (Tky.), 179; orris (Ital.), 16; otto of rose, 2 cases; peppermint oil, 6; pot. permang., 20; quinine, 3; rhubarb, 9; rosemary oil, 2; scammony-root, 33; senna (Tiny), 648; sulphur, 3,980 bags, 50 bals., 134 cks.; vanilla, 4; wax, bees' (Fr.), 4; (Ital.), 7; (@ Malta), 11.

Proposed Carbide Combination.

It is stated that a scheme is being promoted for the formation of an international syndicate of the companies producing carbide of calcium. A preliminary meeting of the representatives of the carbide works in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, and Norway, has just been held in Berlin under the presidency of Herr Von Glenck, of the Longa Carbide Works, there only being two works unrepresented at the conference. The meeting decided in favour of the principle of a syndicate to regulate the market and prevent underselling, and the definite constitution of the syndicate is to take place in Berlin in the course of a few days.

Selling Off.

On Thursday, November 1, a C. & D. representative looked in at Red Lion Square to see how prices were going at the sale of the effects of the Sharp Brothers Perfumery Company. There was plenty of good stuff sold and a lot of really cheap purchases were made. But there was also a good deal of rubbish, some of which astonishingly high prices. For many of the essential oils the prices that ruled were of a distinctly retail nature. There were several wholesalers in the room, but they stopped bidding long before top prices were reached in the majority of cases.

Three leads of oil of cassia, 16½ lbs. each, no guaranteed percentage of aldehyde, fetched an average of 3s. 4d. per lb. A 28-lb. tin of oil of thyme (red), percentage of thymol not stated, fetched 42s.; 30 lbs. of oil of fennel was sold, without guarantee, at 44s. A 14-lb. tin of oil of rosemary of good brand, unopened, was snapped up by a wholesaler at 24s. This would have fetched more, but several of the perfumers who were interested could not convince themselves that "Romain" oil, as the catalogue described it, was a genuine product. About 15 oz. of empty musk-pods were bought for over 5s. per oz., amid some laughter. There was much amusement at the sale of 1 lb. 10 oz. of vanilla of the poorest quality, so brittle that it could almost be broken, and worth about 5s. per lb., for 17s. 6d.; after he had got it the buyer looked very sheepish, and seemed to feel he had been sold. 5 lb. 14 oz. of vanillin, with Bush & Co.'s label, fetched 7l. 14s., but we fancy this was bought in; 6 lbs. 12 oz. of heliotropin was sold for 4l. 4s.; and 2 lb. 8 oz. of coumarin for 37s. 6d.; two 25-lb. coppers of lemon oil fetched 7l. 10s. If these were pure they were cheap, but they were sealed and one had no chance of seeing what they were like, at all events in one case. A 40-lb. tin of oil of citronella bearing Stevenson & Howell's label fetched 34s., which, considering the present market of this article, was about the price. A Winchester of oil of cananga of very doubtful character did not elicit much competition at 50s., nor did one of oil of petitgrain of similar character, which sold at 75s. A lot consisting of 103 oz. oil of cinnamon-leaf fetched the high price of 26s. It appeared afterwards that the buyer fancied that the "leaf" meant nothing, and that he was getting a bargain in cinnamon oil. A small lot of sassafras and verbena oils, of which the market value was 25s., was eagerly bid up to 30s. by a retailer or two. Sandalwood oil afforded some amusement; a Winchester was bought by one gentleman at 63s.; having filled his requirements this purchaser gave way to a wholesale druggist, who bought a fair quantity in Winchesters of best English drawing at 34s. a bottle. This was one of the real bargains of the sale; 70 lbs. of cedar oil and a case of carbonate of magnesia fetched practically full list-prices; 32 lbs. of styrax col., of fair quality, was disposed of for 24s. The auctioneer seemed quite satisfied to see ½ lbs. of gum benzoin (very much seconds) and 10 lbs. of poor cinchona-bark fetch 22s. An original tin of oil of rose-geranium of about 4½ lbs. of good quality was bought at 90s.; one containing 10 lbs., and labelled Treatt, fetched 8l.; 12 oz. of iridol was knocked down at 6l. 6s., but this was apparently bought in. Tincture of civet was one of the bargains of the sale, 32 lbs. having sold for 67s., and 21 oz. of civet in the horn excited a limited amount of competition—the lot went for 11l.; 8 oz. of musk in pod, very damp and in poor condition, was bought by a perfumer at 15l. A weighing-machine, listed new by the makers at 2l., fetched the satisfactory price of 2l. 17s. 6d. A lot of glass measures also fetched much more than their value. A lot of 62 oz. of otto of roses of medium odour, but a little too strong of geranium, was knocked down at 25l. A little lot of 8½ oz. of still poorer quality was allowed to go for 63s., and this was quite enough for it. Triple extracts were decidedly cheap—120 lbs. of extract of violets of fine odour was bought by a wholesaler at 14l. 10s., which was practically the cost of the spirit. Perfume bottles and cases went very low, and perfumers were snapping them up by grosses at very cheap rates.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

Matters in the heavy-chemical market remain very much as lately reported, there being no change of special importance at any of the principal centres. A fairly steady business, both on home and export account, is being transacted, and contracts for forward delivery are being gradually placed at higher ruling figures. Home-consuming trades are fairly well employed, and demand for miscellaneous products is good. Paper-makers and glass-makers particularly are getting through large quantities of raw materials. Dyers and bleachers are fairly busy, but matters are not very brisk with calico-printers. Carpet-manufacturers find trade improving and orders fairly plentiful. Soap-manufacturers and potters are also busily engaged. The paint and colour trades, as is usual at this time of the year, are somewhat quiet.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Products under this head are practically without change, and recent values are steadily maintained. Caustic soda, soda crystals, and ammonia alkali are all in brisk demand. Bleaching-powder keeps very steady.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is dull and weak. Ruling figures are

about as follows:—Beckton terms, 107. 12s. 6d.; London, 107. 12s. 6d.; Leith and Hull, 107. 10s. to 107. 12s. 6d. Exports from Leith last week amount to 594 tons.

SAL AMMONIAC.—Steady, at 397. and 377. per ton for firsts and seconds respectively.

SATIN WHITE.—In fair demand, at 57. to 57. 10s. per ton, in casks, free on rails.

SATINITE.—Moving steadily, both for home and export, at 37. 2s. 6d. to 37. 12s. 6d. per ton, free on rails or free on board.

SALT PETRE.—Steady. British refined: barrels, 21s. per cwt., and kegs, 22s. per cwt. German, barrels and kegs, 19s. 6d. and 20s. 6d. per cwt. respectively.

BARIUM PRODUCTS.—In good demand, and values rule very firm, with strong tendency towards advances. Blanc fixe (pure precipitated carbonate of barium in paste form) very firm and scarce, at 77. 5s. to 87. per ton, in casks, free on rails. Chloride of barium very steady; best ordinary refined crystals, in bags, 77. to 77. 10s. per ton free on rails, 77. 2s. 6d. to 77. 12s. 6d. per ton f.o.b. Casks, 8 to 9-cwt., 5s. per ton extra. Hydrate of barium scarce and dearer, at 147. to 157. per ton, in 6 to 7-cwt. casks. Sulphide of barium crystals moving steadily, at 57. 10s. to 67. per ton, in casks, free on rails. Mineral carbonate of barytes remains practically unchanged; demand is heavy and supply short, and only occasional parcels are to be obtained either for prompt or early forward. Mineral sulphate of barytes, ground, in demand, and prices firm, at from 40s. to 100s. per ton, in accordance with quantity and quality.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, November 7.

CASTOR OIL.—A steady business has been done during the week at 3½d. per lb., and in some cases a slight fraction under, owing to the pressure of some weak holders upon the market, but a firmer tendency is observable towards the close. Forward parcels are still quoted at a higher range of figures. First-pressure English and French are unobtainable at the moment; second-pressure English and French are still quoted 3½d., though very small supplies are available.

GINGER.—Ninety bags of good quality Cochín have changed hands during the week. One hundred bags are still being offered at 35s. per cwt.

IRISH MOSS.—Further arrivals have taken place of common grade, and 28 bales have sold from the quay at 57. per ton. Sixteen bales common offered at auction without reserve, but did not find a buyer. Good medium grades are held from 127. 10s. to 177. 10s.

GUM ACACIA.—Further arrivals have taken place, but prices are strongly maintained, 62 serons of hard amber just landed being held for 67s. 6d. per cwt. About a ton of Ghezirah has been sold at 37s. 6d.; and small sales of sorts are reported at 72s. 6d. per cwt.

GRAMS OF PARADISE.—Thirty-nine bags just arrived from the West Coast of Africa were offered at auction; 10 bags sold at 36s. 3d., and the balance at 37s. 3d. per cwt.

GALLS.—A further sale of blue Smyrna is reported at 70s. per cwt.

BEESWAX.—Seven packages of grey to yellow Chilian are reported sold at 77. 5s. per cwt. The available stocks seem to be getting into a very narrow compass.

HONEY, CHILIAN.—Small sales of Pile X. have been made during the week at 33s. and 34s. per cwt. Forty barrels of Pile 1 are reported sold at 25s. 6d. per cwt. Large sales of Pile 2 have been made for shipment to the Continent at 22s. 6d. per cwt.; and 258 barrels low Peruvian at 19s. 6d.

QUILLAYA BARK.—147. 5s. per ton has been paid for ton lots.

SPERMACETI, CHILIAN, is easier, and 1s. 2d. to 1s. 1¾d. per lb. has been accepted for small parcels in store.

BALSAM, COPAIBA.—In auction there was a decided improvement, 7 barrels of Maranhã (a recent arrival) selling with keen competition at from 1s. 7¼d. to 1s. 8d. per lb.

American Drug Market.

New York, October 30.

Business is quiet, owing to the excitement attending the Presidential campaign.

BUCHU-LEAVES are easier. Prime green are obtainable at 24c., and yellow at 20c. per lb.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian is strong at 62c. Sales of Chinese have been made at 57c., and the market is advancing, owing to concentration of the only available supplies.

CASCARA SAGRADA is firmer, both on the spot and on the Pacific coast, where very little still remains unsold. Quotations are very firm at 4½c. to 7c. per lb., according to age and quality.

COCA-LEAVES.—Truxillo are easier, and supplies are offered at 24c. to 25c. Huanoco, while very scarce, are also a trifle easier, at 34c. to 36c.

CUBE-BERRIES are slow of sale, and holders have reduced quotations to 11c. to 12c. per lb.

ERGOT.—German has advanced to 52c., and the tendency is still upward.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT is steadily advancing, owing to good demand and the fact that the new crop is much smaller than last year. Western oil is firm at \$1.10, and can oil at \$1.25 per lb. HGH has advanced to \$1.30.

QUININE is quiet, demand being very light. Manufacturers quotations are unchanged at 37c. to 38c. Second-hands offer at 36c. Java is firm at 34c.

SARSAPARILLA.—Mexican is easier, 7½c. to 8c. is asked for small parcels, but in quantity supplies can be had considerably under these figures. Honduras is scarce and firm at 28c.

SASSAFRAS-BARK is higher, 8c. to 12c. per lb. being asked on the spot. Offerings from producing points are small.

SENEGA-ROOT is advancing, 43c. to 45c. being now asked by most dealers.

SERPENTARY is offering more freely from the interior, but quotations on the spot are unchanged at 35c. to 37c. per lb.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, November 6.

Business on our drug-market is quiet in general; only a few articles show an upward tendency.

ANTIMONY is quiet, at 37½m. per 100 kilos.

BALSAM, PERU, is steady, at 11½m. per kilo.

CITRIC ACID is dull and lower, at 267m. to 266m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPOR, REFINED, is quiet, and shows little business. There are second-hand sellers at 450m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is also quiet and tending lower, at 72m. per 100 kilos.

GUINEA-GRAINS show some inquiry, but there are no offers just now.

AGAR-AGAR is slow of sale, but we believe the next month, when consumption generally is larger, will bring better values. At present 392½m. is quoted for good current and 400m. for prime.

ANISEED.—America has sent some orders at about 34m. per 100 kilos., and values in consequence are steady.

CANTHARIDES are firmly held at about 510m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE.—Some consumption-orders have been placed at 685m.

CORIANDR is exhausted, except the already-mentioned 10 tons weevily. Morocco is quoted 29m. for new crop; second-hand is 28m. to 27m.

FENUGREEK.—Of cheap stocks only about 8 tons are in the market at 13½m.

GUM MYRRH is firm in conformity with the London market, and quoted 130m. for good natural quality.

GUM SANDARAC.—120m. is asked for prime tears.

LYCOPodium.—Very scarce and rising; 430m. has been paid for spot, and all signs anticipate an improvement.

MENTHOL is excited, and 26½m. has been paid for spot. A further rise is expected.

SUGAR OF MILK.—It is reported that the American makers have formed a combination with the intention to raise prices. They really already quote 2m. higher.

ESSENTIAL OILS.—All are very firm. Star-anise is 14m.; HGH peppermint, 5.70m.; Japanese dementholised, 8½m. for Kobayashi IPECACUANHA.—For Cartagena 16½m. per kilo. has been paid for good bold root.

WORMSEED.—Speculators are trying to buy up stocks, and values in consequence have risen to 60m. for good green.

ERGOT OF RYE.—Russian is entirely exhausted, and Spanish is very scarce; 530m. has been paid for forward delivery.

STAR-ANISE.—Chinese is quoted 160m.

QUININE is dull at 48½m. per kilo.

JAPANESE WAX is dull at 59m. per 100 kilos.

CARNAUBA WAX is firm and held for higher rates. This article shows a good demand, and prices vary, according to quality, from 125m. to 175m. per 100 kilos.

CASTOR OIL shows a strong inquiry for spot delivery, but there are no stocks here at present.

Japanese Drug-market.

Yokohama, October 4.

In continuation of his report (see *C. & D.*, November 3, page 752) our Japanese correspondent writes that, in import articles, boric acid is very lifeless, at 16 yen per cwt. for crystals, though newly imported stuff costs 17 yen. Carbolic acid remains weak and transactions are confined to jobbing lots only. The Government, it is said, will purchase some 120 cwt. Present price is 46½ sen to 47 sen per lb. in bulk. Bismuth salts are still weak, contrary to the dearer quotation in primary markets, and it is generally thought that prices will not rise to the European level until present stock is cleared off. Holders are asking 2.85 yen per lb. for subnitrate, and at 2.80 yen some 4,000 lbs. changed hands a few days ago; foreign importers want 3 yen generally. Bismuth metal is 4.50 yen per lb.; subgallate, 2.90 yen per lb.; and salicylate, 3 yen per lb. Glycerin is firmer, and holders now quote 30 sen per lb. for 5-cwt. drums, and 31½ sen per lb. for

56-lb. tins. Cocaine is again weak owing to absence of orders. Present quotations are 9.80 yen to 9.70 yen, but foreign importers want 10.50 yen per oz., spot. The stock in Yokohama is estimated at 3,000 oz. Thymol is obtainable at far cheaper rates than those quoted in Europe, present price on this side being 7 yen, while it costs 9.50 yen per lb. to import, but it is expected that prices will shortly advance. Ergot is also dull, at 1.35 yen to 1.50 yen per lb. according to holder; stock is estimated at 3,000 lbs. Morphine is firm at 44 yen per lb. Cream of tartar (99 per cent.) is steady, at 45 sen in bulk. Quinine is weak, owing to lack of demand; holders quote 85 sen in bulk, with buyers at 80 sen; for hydrochloride of quinine 1.05 yen to 1.10 yen per oz. in bulk is quoted.

Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, November 5, 12.10 P.M.:—The market here is excited, and speculators have paid from 9s. 6d. to 10s. per lb., f.o.b., for manufacturing qualities. The drought continues, and still higher prices may be expected.

* * * *

HAMBURG, NOVEMBER 8, 1.55 P.M.—The only change of note is an advance in kola nuts, which are now quoted 38m. per 100 kilos. Lycopodium and ergot are both firm and unchanged.

* * * *

NEW YORK, November 8, 2.59 P.M.:—Now that the election is over business is improving. Opium has developed a further tendency, \$3.30 per lb. now being quoted. Quinine has declined to 35c. per oz. Senega-root is still tending upwards at 45c. per lb., and oil of peppermint remains a strong market at \$1.05 per lb. On the other hand, ipecacuanha has slightly declined to \$2.95 per lb. for Rio. Golden seal (hydrastis canadensis) is also cheaper at 54c., and so is Truxillo coca-leaves at 24c. per lb.

London Markets.

ACID CITRIC easier. For ton lots for prompt delivery there are sellers of English crystals at 1s. 3½d., but forward delivery is quoted 1s. 3½d. Makers' prices are unchanged.

CINCHONIDINE is quoted 1s. 3d. per oz. from makers.

COCOA BUTTER.—The tone at the Amsterdam auctions on Tuesday was lower, the whole quantity offered selling as follows:—Ninety tons Van Houten's at 94½c. to 89c. (average price 90.33c.), 25 tons Helm at 88½c. to 89c., 5 tons De Jong at 89c., and 5 tons Mignon at 88½c. to 89½c. per ½ kilo. In London on Tuesday 80 tons Cadbury's brand sold at 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 6¾d., the average being 1s. 6¾d., or about 2½d. per lb. lower.

FERRI ET QUIN. CIT. has been reduced to 8d. per oz. in 1-oz. vials, and 7d. in 25-oz. tins, 100-oz. lots being quoted ¾d., and 500 oz. 1d. per oz. less.

GUM ARABIC.—The so-called Persian insoluble sorts have been in fair inquiry at full values, red unworked sorts selling at from 16s. to 18s. 6d. per cwt. In auction to-day 10 packages of good soft Soudan sorts realised 80s. per cwt.

GUM TRAGACANTH has been in active demand, the recent arrivals of Persian of all grades selling at very full to dearer prices, especially for the finer grades. Fine qualities of Bagdad are still wanted; sales have been made in the lower descriptions at from 6l. 10s. to 7l. 10s. per cwt.

MENTHOL is another 6d. dearer this week, 12s. 6d. per lb., spot, having been paid for Kobayashi brand, and 13s. is now asked. The c.i.f. quotation is 12s. In auction 5 cases Kobayashi brand, unworked, were held for 13s.

MORPHINE is 1d. per oz. dearer in sympathy with opium, the quotation for contract lots of hydrochloride in powder now being 4s. 10d. per oz.

OIL, ANISE, STAR is dull of sale at 6s. spot or 5s. 10d. c.i.f.

OIL, CARAWAY.—The list price has been advanced to 9s. per lb., and B.P. to 13s. 6d.

OIL, CASTOR.—Belgian is again 6d. lower, first pressing being quoted 34s. per cwt. spot in barrels. Hull make is 37s. in barrels, and 4½d. per lb. in cases for medicinal.

OIL, CITRONELE.—Several ton lots have been sold at 9½d. per lb., c.i.f., London. In auction 14 cases from Singapore were limited at 1¼d. per oz.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 3 that the cod-liver oil market is very dull, and lower, mainly caused by offers from the northern cities. Finest non-freezing cod-liver oil is now to be had at 70s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 8,292 barrels, against 12,199 barrels at the same time last year. The London market is quiet, business being confined to small parcels at the recently reduced rates. Best brands are quoted at 75s. per barrel, c.i.f. terms, but possibly this figure could be shaded for quantity.

OIL, LEMONGRASS, is firmly held at 3¾d. per oz., spot, and 3½d., c.i.f., to arrive. In auction, 11 bottles Winter's oil sold at 4d. per oz.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—The spot-price for American HGH is firm at 5s. 10½d. per lb., and 6s., c.i.f. Japanese dementholised is quoted 4s. 3d. on the spot, and for 40-per-cent. there are buyers at 6s. 9d., but 7s. is asked. Ten cases of Japanese dementholised were held for 4s., a bid of 3s. 9d. being refused.

OIL, SANDALWOOD.—The list price for English-drawn oil has been reduced to 12s. per lb.

OPIUM.—The London market has again shown considerable activity in sympathy with that of Smyrna, a good business having been done at from 6d. to 1s. per lb. dearer rates. Good druggists' kinds are now worth 10s. to 10s. 6d. per lb. and fine quality of soft-shipping is practically unobtainable at 13s. to 13s. 6d. Holders of Persian are now asking 14s. 6d. for 10-per-cent. stuff on the spot, of which there is only a small supply.

SMYRNA, October 26.—Owing to large speculative purchases in Constantinople, which advanced the market there, and to the draught which still continues, our market has assumed a much firmer tone. The sales have not been large on this side, but had dealers been more disposed to part with their opium some important transactions would have taken place, more of a speculative nature than for the consuming markets. As soon as consumers begin to respond to present values, we shall see much higher rates than present quotations.

CONSTANTINOPLE, November 2.—Opium has continued to move off freely during the past week, and at higher prices. The sales amount to 30 cases druggists' at 8s. 8d. to 9s. 2d. per lb., f.o.b.; and 21 cases "soft" at 11s. 3d. for Hadjikey; and 10s. 6d. for "felles." There have been rains all over interior, but not sufficient to allow of sowing operations, and as weather appears to be "set fair" once more a further rise is not improbable. It is now rather late for autumn sowings, but a mild winter will allow of an average amount of seed being put underground.

ORRIS.—Quotations from Italy have been considerably lower during the past fortnight, picked Florentine being quoted 48s. per cwt., c.i.f., and sorts at 42s. to 43s. In auction 3 bags sold at 40s. per cwt.

QUININE.—The reduction on the part of makers last week appears to have further depressed the second-hand market, and business has again been on a small scale at lower prices for all positions, owing partly to continued sales by weak holders. Prices have been more or less nominal in the absence of business. On Wednesday a few thousand ounces good German brands sold at 1s. 3¾d. per oz. for December, and 1s. 4¼d. for March delivery. To-day there has been a further decline of ½d., spot selling at 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 3¾d. The quotation for Howard's quinine remains unchanged at 1s. 10d. per oz. for 1,000-oz. lots in vials. Quinine salts, however, have been reduced, the following being the quotations for the more important in 100-oz. tins: Hydrobromide, 2s. ½d.; bi-hydrobromide, 2s. 3½d.; hydrochloride, 2s. ½d.; bi-hydrochloride, 2s. 2½d.; benzoate, 2s. 2½d.; citrate, 2s. 1d.; phosphate, 2s. 2½d.; salicylate, 2s. ½d.; and valerianate, 2s. 3½d. per oz.

SAFFRON.—The new crop is now beginning to arrive, and the quality is said to be very good; prices show no material change.

SENEGA.—One importer quotes 2s., per lb., c.i.f., for Western but there are sellers at slightly under this figure.

SPICES.—Speculative purchases of cloves have again taken place this week, but other articles have been very quiet. At auction on Wednesday brown rough Calicut *Ginger* sold at 28s. to 28s. 6d. per cwt., being cheaper; fair washed rough Cochin was held for 31s. A few cases of medium and small cut sold at 46s. per cwt., the rest being withdrawn without bids. Of the Jamaica offered only a small part sold at

42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary to middling dull. Zanzibar *Cloves* were bought in at 3½d. to 4d. per lb. for ordinary dark to fair quality. A good business has been done during the week for future delivery at 3½d. to 4d. per lb. *Chillies* are easier, dull Japan rather mixed faded sold at 40s. to 40s. 6d. per cwt.; and common Zanzibar were bought in at 37s. per cwt. East India *Capsicums* were withdrawn, a bid of 25s. per cwt. being refused for bright red on stalk. *Pimento* steady, a few lots of common sold at 2½d., and of ordinary at 2¾d., fair being held for 2¾d. per lb. Wild *Mace* sold at 4½d. per lb. for fair pale. *Cinnamon* sold at 11d. per lb. for firsts, at 10½d. for seconds, and at 9d. for quillings. Chips dearer, part sold at 3½d. per lb. Common twiggy broken *Cassia* was bought in at 34s. per cwt. *Pepper* quiet, but steady. Penang and Lampong were bought in, 5½d. per lb. being wanted. Singapore unchanged at 6½d. on the spot, and at 6½d. for March-May shipment. Good Singapore white was bought in at 11d. per lb., and Coriander kind at 9½d. to 9¾d. per lb. Good to fine Siam was withdrawn at 9½d. to 10d. per lb.

VALERIAN is again lower, 28s. per cwt., c.i.f., being quoted for best Belgian.

London Drug-auctions.

At the auctions of "new and old" drugs held to-day, there was a plentiful variety, the most noticeable feature perhaps being the larger offerings of Rio ipecac., which met a substantial decline. There was a fair assortment of sarsaparilla, rhubarb, benzoin, dragon's-blood, ergot, myrrh, and beeswax, chiefly Madagascar. Less quantities of Tinnevely senna were offered, but there is plenty on the way, there being 648 bales landing per s.s. *Glaucus*; the s.s. *Karichi Maru*, due November 8, has 157 bales, and the s.s. *Caledonia*, due November 11, has 152 bales. The following table shows the quantity of goods offered and sold publicly, the figures referring to original packages (boxes, bales, bags, cases, serons, &c.). The asterisks denote that the goods have been sold on private terms previous to the sale, and it ought to be stated that a certain proportion of the bought-in goods are sold immediately after the sale.

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
*Aconite (Jap.)	20	5	Dragon's-blood	41	0
Albume	26	0	ditto <i>Reed</i>	8	4
Aloes (Cape)	48	48	Ergot—		
Curacao (boxes)	20	20	Austrian	3	0
(gourds)	559	559	Russian	10	5
E. African	59	0	Spanish	31	0
Socotrine	35	0	Galbanum	13	0
Zanzibar (tins)	79	0	Galls	26	26
Ambergris	6	0	Gamboge	19	0
Anise	30	0	Gentian	30	0
Anise, star	5	5	Guaiacum	6	3
Annatto-seed	12	3	Guaves	10	0
Araroba	6	0	Gum acacia	196	10
Areca-nuts	68	26	Gum accroides	228	0
Asafetida	37	32	Gum ammoniacum	28	5
Asphaltum	44	0	Honey, Australian	31	0
Balsam, copaiba	52	51	Jamaica	79	64
Peru	6	0	Ipecacuanha—		
Tolu	30	0	(Cartagena)	73	6
Bay-leaves	2	0	(Rio)	69	34
Benzoin—			Jalap	28	0
Palembang	105	5	Kamala	3	0
Siam	26	2	Kino	8	0
Sumatra	213	32	Kola	36	6
Buchu	15	8	Lemon-peel (lbs.)	130	130
Calumba	178	70	Lime-juice	51	43
Cannabis indica	37	0	Liquorice-juice	124	19
Cardamoms	238	96	" powder	20	0
Cascara sagrada	30	0	Mastich	11	0
Cassia fistula	9	0	Menthol	5	0
Castor seed	12	0	Myrrh	64	0
Castorium	3	0	*Musk, (pod)	4	2
Chiretta	35	0	(grain)	5	0
Cinchona	134	96	Nutmeg-paste	2	0
Coca-leaves	15	0	Nux vomica	183	111
Cocculus indicus	116	0	Oil, anise star	10	0
Colocyath	67	17	bergamot	2	2
Croton-seed	57	49	cajaput	14	0
Cubebs	200	0	cassia	25	0
Cuttle-fish	34	0	chaulmooga	1	0

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Oil, cinnamon-leaf	2	0	Scammonium	10	0
citronella	14	0	Senna—		
eucalyptus	49	0	Alexandrian	134	2
lemon	58	0	Tinnevely	263	209
lemongrass	12	11	Senega	10	0
lime	7	0	Soy	109	0
nutmeg	4	0	Squills	26	0
orange, bitter	3	0	Strophanthus	4	0
orange, sweet	1	1	Tamarinds	37	27
peppermint	21	0	Tragacanth	1	0
rose	8	0	Turmeric	35	0
Opium	3	0	Turtle, dried	2	0
Orange blossoms	13	0	Turpentine (?)	4	0
Orange-peel	26	0	Vanilla	10	0
Orris	36	12	Vermilion	15	0
Otto of rose	2	0	Wax (bees')—		
Pareira brava	21	0	Carnauba	37	0
Patchouli-leaves	13	0	East Indian	63	9
Pepper, Cayenne	2	0	Italian	46	0
Rhatany	16	0	Jamaica	11	4
Rhubarb	257	40	Madagascar	691	106
Sandalwood	20	0	Morocco	12	0
Sarsaparilla—			Mozambique	42	0
Guayaquil	2	2	Natal	29	0
Honduras	32	0	Spanish	6	3
Jamaica	27	4	Zanzibar	98	27
Lima	15	9	Wax (Japan)	15	0
Native	15	6	Yarrow	5	0

ACONITE.—Of the 20 bags Japanese offered, 5 had been sold privately at 35s. per cwt., and the remainder were held for this figure.

ALOES.—Cape were about steady, 48 cases, chiefly secondary quality, being offered and disposed of at 24s. for good bright hard, 20s. to 22s. subject for seconds slightly softish, and 18s. to 19s. 6d. for inferior seconds. Two parcels of Socotrine in kegs were also offered, 75s. was understood to be the price at which sales continue to be made privately. Of Zanzibar aloes 79 cases, each containing 4 tins of mixed quality, were bought in. Of Curacao 20 boxes offered, and sold at from 36s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good brown liver, 30s. for medium brown, and 26s. 6d. for dull and coarse. 559 gourds also sold at 29s. for fair liver, 19s. 6d. to 21s. for medium, and 14s. for inferior.

ANISE.—Five cases of Chinese of fair odour, said to be damaged, realised 66s. per cwt., "without reserve."

ANNATTO.—For fair St. Vincent 2¼d. per lb. was paid.

ARECA.—Fine bold from Colombo (10 bags) sold at 14s. per cwt., and for 16 bags of another parcel not so good 12s. was paid.

ASAFETIDA.—A parcel of 32 cases offered "without reserve" and sold at from 7s. to 9s. for heavy pale grey broken block; 6s. for broken brown, slightly softish; 5s. for common grey broken. Common grey block, small, brought 10s. to 13s.; and heavy brown block, 8s. to 9s. per cwt. Privately small sales of medium gum continue to be made at from 30s. to 45s. per cwt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—In good demand at dearer rates. A string of 19 kegs sold at 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7d. for thin Para, and 1s. 6d. for dark. Five cases of Cartagena sold at 1s. 6d. per lb. for pale cloudy to dark, and 27 tins of pale to dark cloudy Angostura realised 1s. 5d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—For small tins 1s. 5d. per lb. was wanted, and for large tins 1s. 2d.

BENZOIN.—Sumatra sold at unchanged rates, 6l. to 6l. 10s. per cwt. being paid for ordinary to barely fair seconds, and 7l. 2s. 6d. for good fair ditto with small almonds. Siam siftings in block sold without reserve at 5l. 7s. 6d., and a few cases of fair Palembang seconds sold cheaply at 50s.

BUCHU-LEAVES were about 2d. per lb. dearer. To-day good green round leaf sold at from 1s. to 1s. 2d., and yellowish from 7d. to 9d. Another parcel of 7 bales of yellowish leaf were held for 11d. per lb., and a bale of small green leaf sold, without reserve, at 8½d.

CALUMBA sold at irregular to full-up rates, 16s. being paid for 20 bags of lean stemmy sorts, slightly yellowish, which was dearer, compared with 14s. 6d. paid for natural sorts. Ten bags of washed, mostly tongue, were bought in at 50s. per cwt.

CARDAMOMS were barely steady in auction at the following rates:—Ceylon-Mysore, medium to bold pale, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 5d. per lb.; medium pale ditto, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.; palish long, 2s. 3d.; small to medium pale, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10d.; medium specky, 1s. 8d.; very small pale, 1s. 2d.; medium pale split, 1s. 5d.; small ditto, 1s. 2d.; brown and split, 1s. 1d. Seeds, 1s. 11d. to 2s. per lb.

CINCHONA.—Eight serons of Crown-Loxa bark, quality not quite so good as that sold at previous auction, realised 1s. 4d. per lb.; and 54 serons Huanoco quill sold at 6½d. Grey to good Guayaquil quill sold at from 3½d. to 3d. per lb.

COLOCYNTH.—Good white pulp from Almeria sold at 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb. compared with last public sale rates, 5s. to 5s. 2d. per lb. being paid; inferior ditto sold at 1s. 2d.

CROTON-SEED.—Lower. A lot of 35 bags "offered without reserve," and sold at 25s. per cwt, for fair Cochin and 20s. for dull ditto. Another parcel of 14 bags dull Ceylon brought 20s.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—No fine drop was disposed of, although the limits had been reduced. Very common reed sold without reserve at 4d. 12s. 6d. to 4d. 15s. per cwt. Zanzibar drop was bought in at 75s.

ERGOT.—Quiet in auction. Bold sound Russian of new crop was held for 2s. 5d., and the same figure was mentioned for Spanish. For three bags of new Austrian ergot 2s. 5d. was also wanted. Five bags small Russian realised 2s. to 2s. 1d. "without reserve." Privately the market is very firm. Spanish is quoted at 2s. 4d. per lb. f.o.b. Hamburg, and another dealer asks 2s. 3d., c.i.f.

GALLS.—In Smyrna galls a few bags have been sold at 62s. 6d. per cwt, spot. In auction 26 bags sold "without reserve" at 75s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE.—For blocky Siam pipe of fair fracture 8l. 15s. was refused, the lot being bought in at 9l. 10s.; for dull ricey Saigon pipe 1l. 12s. 6d. was also refused.

GUAIACUM.—Sold at unchanged rates, from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. being paid for fair to good glassy block, and a package of drossy ditto ran up to 8d. per lb.

GUM AMMONIACUM.—Five cases of low seedy block realised 11s. per cwt., without reserve.

HONEY.—Sold at unchanged rates. A parcel of 34 barrels Jamaica offered and sold at from 25s. to 27s. for brownish set, and 26s. for dark red liquid. Another lot of 29 packages realised 29s. 6d. to 30s. for pale set, 24s. 6d. to 25s. for brownish set, and 25s. to 27s. for dark red liquid.

IPECACUANHA was the outstanding feature of the drug-sales to-day, the bulk of the Rio root offered being disposed of at a decline of 1s. to 1s. 4d. per lb. The first selling broker offered 41 bales and sold 6 only, at from 10s. 6d. to 10s. 8d. for lean to fair, but the second broker announced his intention of selling, with the result that the 28 bales were sold at from 10s. to 10s. 2d., the latter figure being paid for bright natural root. Cartagena was also lower, 3 bales selling at 7s. 6d. per lb. subject, and 2 bags of country damaged at 6s. 8d. A parcel of 25 bags was bought in at 7s. 3d., the best bid obtainable being 6s. 10d.

JALAP.—The limit for small to bold, partly heavy, Vera Cruz tuber was 7½d.

KOLA.—For West Indian 3¼d. per lb. was paid for a small parcel "with all faults."

LEMON-PEEL.—A parcel of about 130 lbs. net old season's English-cut peel sold "without reserve," at 5½d. per lb.

LIME-JUICE.—Thirty-six packages of West Indian sold "without reserve" at from 6d. to 11d. per gal., and 7 puncheons at from 6d. to 10d.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Decorticated, from Patras, sold at 24s. per cwt. for 10 bags.

MYRRH.—For reddish, doubtful sorts 46s. was paid, and for poor dark sorts 45s. per cwt.; small dark chips sold at 19s. to 20s.; and for fine siftings 22s. was refused.

NUX VOMICA realised full rates, 8s. 6d. being paid for fair bold but dull Bombay seed; and 2s. 3d. per cwt., without reserve, for very low pickings.

RHUBARB.—The business in auction was chiefly confined to a parcel of 33 cases of Shensi (mostly 1899 import), and more or less wormy, which were offered and sold "without reserve," as follows:—Bold round, grey fracture, 9d.; round rough pickings, 7½d.; rough flat, 6¾d.; fair medium round, 10d. to 11½d.; flat ditto, 10d.; medium to bold flat, dull coat, grey and dark fracture, 6d. to 7d.; bold round, 5½d.; pickings, 5½d. to 6d.; Shensi and high-dried mixed, 10¾d.; dull-coated flat High-dried, grey and dark fracture, "without reserve," 7½d. per lb. The following sales were not "without reserve":—Shensi, dull coat, flat, three-quarter pinky, quarter grey fracture, 1s. 3d.; round ditto, 1s. 3d.; and good rough pickings, 1s. 3d. Canton bold round rough wormy, 9¾d. to 10d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Of 15 bales Lima-Jamaica offered, 9 sold at from 11¼d. to 1s. per lb. for damaged. Sound red, and yellow native Jamaica realised 8¾d., and sea-damaged, 8d. Two packages sold "without reserve" at 7½d. Sound grey Jamaica was held for 1s. 7d., and damaged was disposed of at 1s. 4d. Two bales of damaged Guayaquil realised 1s. 1d.

SENNA.—The bulk of the reduced supplies of Tinnevely offered to-day sold at about steady rates, considering that there are three consignments near at hand and landing. The following prices were paid, the goods in some instances being more or less sea-damaged:—Tinnevely, medium to bold greenish leaf, 3d. to 4d.; small to medium ditto, 2d. to 2¾d.; and common small and yellowish leaf, 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb. Sea-damaged pods sold at from 3½d. to 4d. per lb. Of Alexandrian a few bales sold at 5½d. per lb. for fairly whole leaf, slightly yellowish. Privately there has been slightly more demand for Alexandrian.

STROPHANTHUS.—Fluffy Kombé-seed was taken out at 2s. 6d. per lb., no response being made to 2s.

WAX, BEES.—There was a better demand to-day at the following rates:—Sound Madagascar, 6l. 10s. per cwt.; wormy ditto, 6l. to 6l. 7s. 6d.; Zanzibar, wormy of mixed colours, 6l. to 6l. 5s.; and good brown, 6l. 12s. 6d.; "good pipe, 6l. 12s. 6d.; Jamaica, fine bright, 7l. 12s. 6d.; Madras (3 bags), 5l.; Bombay, of mixed colours, 5l., subject. Unbleached Calcutta was limited, at 6l. 10s.; and Spanish, at 6l. 12s. 6d. per cwt.

Coming Events.

Monday, November 12.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association, Church House, Church Street, Dewsbury, at 8.30. The Council's new draft Pharmacy Bill and the proposed new Poisonous Substances Bill will be discussed.

Tuesday, November 13.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 8 p.m. Mr. Frank Browne, pharmaceutical chemist (Government analyst of Hong-Kong), will deliver a lecture on "The Experiences of a British Pharmacist in China" (illustrated by lantern slides).

Wednesday, November 14.

Nottingham and Notts' Chemists' Association, Albert Hotel, Derby Road, at 8.45 p.m. Inaugural address by Mr. S. R. Atkins.

School of Pharmacy Football and Cricket Club. Annual smoking-concert in the Crown Room, Holborn Restaurant, at 8 p.m., Mr. R. A. Robinson, L.C.C., in the chair. The Committee desire a large attendance of past and present "Square" men. Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, to be obtained from Mr. Richard A. Robinson, jun. (Hon. Secretary Concert Committee), 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

Newcastle-on-Tyne and District Chemists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at 8.30 p.m. Meeting altered from November 7 to 14. Various trade matters and address by the President (Mr. Chas. Ridley).

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, at 9.15 p.m. Opening meeting. Mr. David Harley (President) will deliver the inaugural address:—"Pharmacy in Scotland: A Retrospect."

Thursday, November 15.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 p.m. Short papers.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, at 8 p.m. Papers on "The Bases contained in Scottish Shale Oil," by Messrs. F. C. Garrett, M.Sc., and J. A. Smythe, B.Sc., Ph.D.